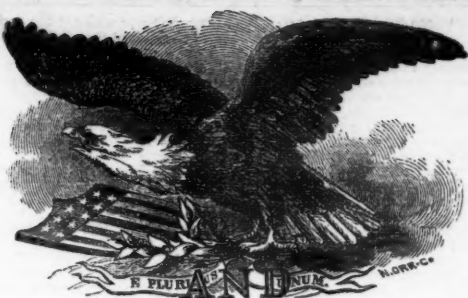


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THE WAR OFFICE.

THE experience of the last few months plainly shows that in ordinary times an officer or ex-officer of the Army is the fittest person to fill the post of Secretary of War. In Mr. STANTON's hands the War Department was conducted with marvellous vigor. We endorse the words of General GRANT in his official letter to the ex-Secretary last August, regarding "the zeal, patriotism, firmness and ability with which you have ever discharged the duties of Secretary of War." We cannot, indeed, go so far as Mr. SEWARD, who, in his rapturous eulogy of his quondam colleague, pronounced his achievements not only superhuman, but "almost divine," but we can, at least, declare him now, as we have before, the Louvois of our war—the Louvois in his virtues and vigor, his foibles and failings. Still, there has been so decided an improvement made this Autumn past in the administration of the War Office, that we consider it a piece of good fortune to the country, as well as to the Army, that this portfolio was put into General GRANT's hands. And since such was the admitted energy and honesty of Mr. STANTON, we must conclude that professional training and knowledge and professional acquaintance with the Army, as the result of long service therein, give an Army officer advantages and qualifications in the War Bureau over any civilian.

The difference we speak of has been more marked from the character of the Secretary *ad interim*, whose remarkable administrative powers, sound judgment, common sense, and accurate estimate of men, give him advantages for his position which can not always in equal degree be secured. Still, much of General GRANT's success in his new position has come from his professional knowledge. He knows the wants of officers and of men; can see what evils need remedy and how to remedy them; can bring reform to bear at the right point. "Retrenchment was the first subject," he says, "to attract my attention;" and the result shows how he has dealt with it. He began with those "practices of extravagance," which came in with the war, and which any but an old officer of the Army would have supposed authorized by custom and the usages of the service. He abolished the headquarters ambulances and dismounted the orderlies, at all the posts. He abolished the Bureau of Rebel Archives, and that of the Exchange of Prisoners, or, rather, had the duties connected with them performed in the Adjutant-General's Department. He dismissed supernumerary officers and clerks from all positions. He cleared out the great storehouses filled with decaying quartermaster's stores, distributed a large stock of such as would keep to the various posts, sold the balance for cash, closed up the storehouses, ceasing to pay rent, and discharged the large force of employees who had been nominally taking care of them. He reduced, as far as

now practicable, the cost of maintaining troops in the Indian country.

It will readily be seen from this enumeration that the subjects on which retrenchment was employed were those of which an army officer, himself familiar with every grade of duty from lieutenant up to general, could better judge than any civilian. The cry of "economy" is one easy to raise. Nothing is more facile than a hasty slashing away at the details of army organization, under a plea of cutting down; some Congressmen are good at that. But to judiciously retrench may require partial saving in some matters, wholesale economy in others, and increase of expenditure in others still.

Again, in the subjects to which General GRANT invites the attention of Congress, and in the recommendations he makes, we discern the practical soldier at the head of the War Bureau. These are, in brief, as follows: He declares it necessary that some change should be made in the present system of courts-martial and of punishments, and recommends the organization of "companies of discipline." He advocates five-years enlistments in the infantry and artillery, instead of the existing three-years system. He calls attention to the necessity of changing the laws and the penalties for desertion, making them more stringent. He recommends an increase of three adjutant-generals, so that there will be enough to assign one to each general officer of the Army, and so avoiding detachments for that service. He recommends new appointments in the Quartermaster's, Commissary, and Pay Departments. He approves the Chief of Engineers' recommendation for some legislation to improve the discipline and instruction of the Engineer Corps. He recommends the organization of an inspection department; the retention of the Bureau of Military Justice; the increase of the quartermaster force; the sale of small arsenals at the South; and of the property at Harper's Ferry. He indorses in high terms the excellence of the converted Springfield rifles and of that of the heavy guns. He urges an increase in the number of cadets at the Military Academy; he recommends the continuance for another year of the additional pay allowed to officers by the last Congress. In a word, all of General GRANT's recommendations are those of one perfectly conversant with the Army. Not a few of them have been broached in the JOURNAL during the past year, either in the correspondence or the editorial columns. And there is hardly one of these recommendations which Congress ought not to adopt promptly and to the letter. Indeed, the list we have just compiled will serve as a list of the military topics for discussion and legislation this Winter.

These points we present by way of illustration of what we mean regarding the peculiar fitness of having a soldier in the War Office. General GRANT, said Major-General SICKLES, in a recent public speech, "succeeded the most illustrious War Minister of modern times, and with such a predecessor, he made a reputation; he has introduced reforms that escaped even the eye of STANTON." As to the comfort and convenience which have resulted to the officers of the Army from the appointment of the General as Secretary *ad interim*, they have been very great. One would almost say that the tone of the whole Army had been improved by the restoration of a long-intermitted professional courtesy at Washington.

Considering that, in the mutations of politics, it is probable that the General-in-Chief will not always preside over the War Office, it may be queried whether experience does not show it to be advisable that the former should, either by positive regulation or tacit understanding, be allowed to take charge of some of the duties hitherto belonging to the latter. To appoint an inferior officer of the Army as Secretary of War while the General-in-Chief holds his own position, might be, perhaps, attended with some disadvantages. To appoint any civilian, whose claims to the position should rest chiefly on his political character and services, might be a less judicious course than to appoint an officer now or formerly connected with the Army. But it might rather be advisable to so enlarge the authority of the General-in-Chief as to put him in direct and immediate communication with the President, in the discharge of his official duties, without being compelled to make the circuit of the War Office. The latter conduit is really not needed in many details, and we surmise that General GRANT, while not practically incommoded by the old arrangement, nevertheless has found it pleasant to report directly to the President, and to receive instructions directly from him, without the intervention of a cabinet officer.

Even with the loss of some of those functions which naturally seem to fall within the domain of the general-in-chief of an army—and still more so, now that the office of general has been for the first time created in America—the Secretary of War would still have enough in his charge in time of peace, and more than enough in time of war. He would have the yearly appropriations to estimate, and he would see that they were properly expended. He would have the internal economy of all the departments in his bureau to keep under constant control, would arrange, regulate and improve the whole system of work in all the military offices, and attend to the public accounts of each. Much, too, relative to the finance of the Army, to Congressional legislation, to record evidence of the operations of the Army everywhere; to pay, pensions, provisions, transportation, supplies, equipments; to commissions and promotions; and to questions arising between civil and military authority, would remain to the Secretary. In Cabinet councils he would take part as the proper representative and head of the military department.

But our object is not to go into details on this subject. We refer rather to the general principle which late experience has taught us, regarding the benefits to be derived from bringing the General-in-Chief into more immediate intercourse with the President and Congress on one hand, and with the Army and the people of districts which they may occupy on the other.

ACCORDING to a statement of Sir John Pakington, in the House of Commons, the "small-arms competition in England does not amount to near as much as was expected. Of nearly one hundred arms sent in, the great majority, or nearly seventy, did not comply with the terms of the advertisement, and the trial for superiority was, therefore, confined to the remaining thirty."

In compliance with special orders, No. 141 current series, Headquarters Fifth Military District, Headquarters District of Texas has been established at Austin, Texas, until further orders.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, December 2, 1867.

Sir: During the year our naval force has been almost exclusively employed on foreign stations. But little remained for it to perform in our own waters, and the general peace which has prevailed throughout the civilized world has called for no interposition or active operations on our part for the protection of our commerce abroad. The display of a naval force has been sufficient to suppress threatened difficulties, and in every quarter American interests have been respected and American rights observed by commercial nations, and intercourse and trade have been fostered.

EXHIBIT OF THE NAVAL FORCE.

During the year the aggregate naval force has been reduced forty vessels and four hundred and eighty-two guns. The number of vessels in commission has been reduced twelve, and the number on squadron service is thirteen less than at the date of my last report. The following is a summary of the present condition of the vessels of the Navy:

	No.	Guns.
Vessels in squadron service.....	59	507
Apprentice ships.....	3	52
Receiving ships.....	8	129
Special and lake service.....	3	55
Attached to Naval Academy.....	10	114
On service at yards and stations, including yard and powder tugs, and vessels used as barracks and coal barges.....	23	41
Total number of vessels in use.....	103	898
Iron-clad vessels laid up.....	49	109
Iron-clad vessels not completed.....	6	22
Steam vessels not completed.....	21	352
Sailing vessels not completed (old line-of-battle ships).....	2	508
Other vessels laid up, repairing, fitting sea, and for sale.....	57	—
Total number of vessels and guns.....	238	1,869

Eleven thousand nine hundred men have been employed in the naval and coast-survey service during the year.

EUROPEAN SQUADRON.

Admiral Farragut was, last Spring, designated to command the European squadron. He hoisted his flag on the Franklin, at New York, on the 17th of June, and departed from Sandy Hook on the 28th of that month. On the 14th of July he relieved Rear-Admiral Goldsborough at Cherbourg.

The reception of our distinguished naval commander by the people of different ports he visited, and by the sovereigns and authorities of Europe, has been of a character gratifying to himself, and to the government and people of the United States. At Cherbourg the Franklin was visited by the Empress of France, while Admiral Farragut was invited to Paris by the Emperor, who tended to him personal attention and courtesy.

On the 30th of July he sailed for Cronstadt: the Ticonderoga, Canandaigua, and Frolic composing, with his flag-ship, the squadron which went up the Baltic. This was the largest American naval force which had ever visited the countries of northern Europe. Highly complimentary and friendly honors, naval and civil, were everywhere extended. International, official, and honorary salutes were given and returned. At Cronstadt the squadron was visited by his Highness the Grand Duke Constantine, the official head of the Russian navy, by Rear-Admiral Lessoffsky, and other dignitaries, and by the municipal authorities of St. Petersburg. During their brief stay at Cronstadt our officers experienced the unbounded hospitality and unwarlike courtesy and attention of the Russian government and people, whose friendship and attachment to the United States have been so often and unmistakably manifested. Many availed themselves of invitations to visit Moscow, the ancient capital, and other parts of the empire. Upon leaving Cronstadt, on the 30th of August, the squadron proceeded by invitation from the grand duke to visit and inspect the iron-clad fleet of Russia at Tromsund Roads, where a grand naval review took place. On the 1st of September they proceeded to sea amid cheering from all the ships of the two squadrons, "concluding," in the words of Admiral Farragut, "a visit which from first to last has been marked by the interchange of the warmest friendliness, and which we shall always cherish as one of the most pleasant remembrances of our lives."

The squadron anchored on the 3d of September off Waxholm, below Stockholm. A vessel was placed at the disposal of Admiral Farragut during his stay, by order of the government, and on reaching the Swedish capital he was presented to the King, who expressed the gratification which it gave him to welcome the vessels of war of the United States once more in the waters of Sweden.

The squadron left Stockholm on the 9th of September, and on the 14th anchored off Copenhagen. During the run to this point, and in a heavy gale, the full sailing power of the Franklin was tested. Her performance gave general satisfaction, and Admiral Farragut says that he "can with confidence say she steams better under full power than any frigate in our service." The ministers of war and marine tendered him all the civilities in their power during his stay in Copenhagen. On the 19th by invitation, he dined with the King of Denmark, his brother, and his two sons, the crown prince, and his Majesty, George, the King of Greece.

Admiral Farragut left Copenhagen on the 19th of September and arrived off Gravesend, England, on the 26th. The Lords Commissioners of admiralty here telegraphed him that they would be happy to render any attention to him and his squadron that might be agreeable. He accompanied them on their annual tour of inspection of the dockyards of Woolwich, Chatham, Sheerness, and Portsmouth. Great courtesy was invariably extended to him and his officers on these visits. The Prince de Joinville visited the Franklin, and the admiral and his officers accepted the cordial invitation of the prince to visit him at his residence at Mount Lebanon. The flag-ship having gone to Sheerness, the admiral joined her at that place on the 12th of October. On the 14th he attended the gun target practice at Shoeburyness.

On the 15th, Admiral Farragut sailed for Portsmouth, which point he reached the next day. On the 17th, he entertained the lords of admiralty, receiving them with full honors, and on the day following made a most interesting visit to the dock-yard, the gunnery ship, and some of the iron-clads. On the 19th he received his highness the Duke of Cambridge with yards manned, the royal standard at the main, and a salute of twenty-one guns. During his entire stay at Portsmouth a small steamer was placed at his disposal and the admiral was received with every kindness and hospitality, not only by officers of the army and navy, but also by the civil authorities.

On the 20th, he left Portsmouth, and on the next day anchored in Plymouth harbor. At this place there was a repetition of the civilities received at other points, extending over three days. The admiral sailed on the 23rd, and anchored off Lisbon on the 28th.

The dispatches of Admiral Farragut relating to his public movements, received at the department prior to November 1, are given in the appendix to this report.

Rear-Admiral Goldsborough continued in command of the squadron until relieved by Admiral Farragut. In the month of December, 1866, the Colorado left Lisbon for the Mediterranean, and after passing a few days at Port Mahon, proceeded in January to Villefranche, where she remained until March, when she left for southern Italy. In May she went from Naples to Trieste, and returned by way of Carthage to Gibraltar in June.

In the month of November, 1866, on a joint application from Mr. King, our minister at Rome, and Mr. Fox, then one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Navy, who was in Rome, urging the immediate presence of one of our ships-of-war at Civita Vecchia on a very important matter, the Swatara was ordered to proceed to that place. The object in view was the transportation of John H. Suratt, charged with having been implicated in the assassination of the late President Lincoln, to the United States. But the prisoner escaped from his captors and fled from the Papal dominions. He was, however, retaken in Alexandria, whither the Swatara followed him, and where Commander Jeffers received him on the 21st of December, from our consul-general in Egypt. Leaving Alexandria, the Swatara, after a tedious voyage, touching at Nice and Funchal, reached Washington in February, where Commander Jeffers delivered the prisoner to the marshal of the District of Columbia, and the Swatara immediately thereafter returned to Lisbon and rejoined the European squadron.

Earnest appeals in behalf of the suffering Christians in Crete have, from time to time, been made to our naval officers, urging them to so far depart from the principle of non-interference and that neutrality which the Government of the United States has studiously enjoined and observed, as to repair to that island and convey to the shores of Greece the women and children, who were represented as houseless and destitute, the result of the insurrection against the Turkish authorities. Rear-Admiral Goldsborough, to whom the application was first made for a naval vessel to transport the inhabitants from Crete, very properly declined to violate neutral obligations, nor could the department authorize him to employ a steamer to convey

inhabitants from Turkish territory during civil war without the consent of the Turkish government. He was informed that if our minister at Constantinople could obtain permission of the government to convey away the inhabitants the department would interpose no objection to the employment of a steamer as requested, though naval vessels are not adapted to transportation.

The Canandaigua, Captain Strong, was dispatched to Crete with full, explicit and guarded instructions from Rear-Admiral Goldsborough to first obtain an interview with the chief authority of the island, explain the object of his visit to be one of friendship, harmony, and humanity, and if consent could be obtained, to receive on board as many Greek women and children as the vessel could accommodate, and take them to Greece. In an interview with Omar Pacha, Captain Strong communicated his instructions, but permission was refused, and he was informed it would not be allowed under any circumstances.

Subsequently, on the 26th of July, Admiral Farragut dispatched the Swatara, Commander Jeffers, to Crete. His reports confirm the representations of Captain Strong, of the Canandaigua, as to the impolicy of any interference on our part with either of the belligerents. It could not be done without violating the neutrality which we had always observed, and, whatever may have been our sympathies, we could take no active measures with the insurrectionists without an injustice to the Turkish government, which had scrupulously respected our national integrity and refused recognition of the rebels when other nations gave them countenance. As a period when other powers restricted the courtesy which belonged to us, placed us on a footing of belligerents, and extended to the rebels all the privileges that were given to the naval vessels of the United States, the Turkish government maintained honorable faith with us, and gave no encouragement to the insurrection which threatened the stability of our Union. The dispatches of Captain Strong and Commander Jeffers are appended to this report.

The following vessels now compose the European squadron: Franklin (flag ship), 39 guns; Canandaigua, 7 guns; Ticonderoga, 9 guns; Swatara, 10 guns; Shamrock, 10 guns; Frolic, 5 guns; Guard (store ship), 3 guns.

ASIATIC SQUADRON.

The Asiatic squadron is still under the command of Rear-Admiral H. H. Bell, and has been re-enforced during the year by the addition of the Onedra, Iroquois, Aroostook, Unadilla, and the Onward, and consists at this time of the Hartford (flag ship), 21 guns; Shenandoah, 7 guns; Onedra, 8 guns; Wachusett, 9 guns; Wyoming, 6 guns; Iroquois, 6 guns; Ashuelot, 10 guns; Monocacy, 10 guns; Aroostook, 5 guns; Unadilla, 5 guns; Onward, 3 guns; Supply, 6 guns.

The Piscataqua, one of the steam frigates recently built, will sail in a few days to relieve the Hartford, and carry out Rear-Admiral S. C. Rowan, who will succeed Rear-Admiral Bell.

The Idaho, taken into the service by direction of Congress, has been converted into a sailing vessel by removing the boilers and machinery, which were condemned as worthless. She sailed from New York November 1st, and will be stationed at Nagasaki, and be used principally as a hospital and storeship.

The Maumee is now on her way to join the squadron, and the Wachusett, Wyoming, Onward, and Supply are under orders to return to the United States.

In April last, by request of Mr. Van Valkenburg, the United States Minister, Rear-Admiral Bell proceeded to Yokohama, having been advised that the foreign ministers resident in Japan proposed to visit the Tycoon, who had invited them to an interview at his country residence. The occasion being an extraordinary one in the history of Japanese intercourse with foreigners, and the transaction one of an important commercial and business character, Rear-Admiral Bell deemed it expedient that our minister should be sustained by the display of a respectable naval force off the port of Osaka, and that Mr. Van Valkenburg should be conveyed thither in his flag ship, the Hartford. With this intent he assembled at Yokohama the Hartford, Shenandoah, and Wyoming, of his squadron. Unfortunately the machinery of the Hartford became temporarily disabled on her passage from Hong Kong, and she could not therefore discharge this duty. The minister was, however, accommodated on board the Shenandoah, which, in company with the Wyoming, proceeded to Osaka, where he was landed on the first of May with the usual honors, and escorted by the marine guard of both vessels. Rear-Admiral Bell subsequently arrived in the Hartford, and remained with the Shenandoah and Wyoming until the object of the mission was completed, when the Shenandoah returned with the minister, to Yokohama, and the Hartford and Wyoming proceeded by way of the inland sea to Nagasaki.

The Japanese government having, in the interview between the Tycoon and the ministers, signified its purpose to open an additional port on the western coast to foreign trade, our minister, in pursuance of an arrangement with his colleagues, left Yokohama on the 25th of June in the Shenandoah, which had been placed at his disposal, with a view of examining the different ports and selecting the most suitable one for commercial purposes. Unusual interest marked this cruise. The Shenandoah reached Hakodadi on the 28th of June, and the first salute that was ever fired there in honor of a foreign minister was given on this occasion. The minister and the officers of the Shenandoah were received by the governor with marked ceremony and politeness. On the 12th of July the Shenandoah entered the port of Negata, where similar courtesies were extended to them by the governor, vice-governor, and a large concourse of officials. Naha was reached on the 13th of July, no American vessel having ever before entered that harbor, and on the 17th of July she visited Mikumi and also Tsunome, where no foreign vessel of war had ever previously anchored. The Shenandoah arrived on the 26th at Miyako, the most beautiful of all the bays visited. Commodore Goldsborough and the officers under his command made surveys of most of these new harbors, and prepared sailing directions for their entrance.

In consequence of the domestic troubles in Japan, and to prevent interruption of our opening commerce with that country, and especially in consideration of the national importance of the recently established communication with Asia by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, one or more of the vessels of the Asiatic squadron is constantly maintained in the waters of Japan.

American commerce in the East suffered some detriment during our civil war, and others have profited by our misfortune. Prussia has, within a few years, become conspicuous as a mercantile power in the East. Sailing vessels under her flag are seen in every port, receiving freights at lower rates than are offered by other American or British ships, and German merchants are securing a thriving business in that quarter. Apprehensions are expressed that we are not destined to recover the prestige of our former successful mercantile marine in the China seas, unless it be by means of steam vessels built for that trade. The arrival of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's steamer Colorado, the first of that line, at Hong Kong, in January last, via Yokohama, twenty-nine and a half days from San Francisco, was an event of vast importance in steam navigation, as well as of intense interest to our countrymen in Eastern Asia, and was greeted by our naval vessels with a salute of twenty-one guns, and their mastsheads were dressed with the American ensign. The establishment of this line of steamers is, without doubt, destined to have an expanding and beneficial influence on the commerce on the world.

In the Autumn of 1866 intelligence reached the squadron that the American General Sherman had been wrecked in the Ping Yang river, one of the streams of Corea, and that all of her officers, crew, and passengers were murdered. Rear-Admiral Bell dispatched the Wachusett, Commander R. W. Shufeldt, to Chifu to investigate the circumstances attending the loss of the General Sherman, with instructions to demand of the chief authorities that, if there were any survivors of the schooner, they should be delivered on the deck of the Wachusett, whatever might be their nationality, and to make such further investigation as was practicable.

The Wachusett anchored near the mouth of the Ta Tong River, on the west coast of Corea, on the 23d of January. The pilot secured for those waters did not consider it safe, at that season, to take the vessel to the Ping Yang, which was some thirty miles to the northward. Commander Shufeldt had, therefore, to communicate with the King of Corea by a messenger, secured through the instrumentality of the chief of a fishing village. The object of his visit and his demands were thus made known; but no reply to his communication was received. On the 20th of January, however, an officer, who claimed to be from the capital, was presented on board the Wachusett, and had an interview with her commander. The result was most unsatisfactory. Commander Shufeldt was unable to find any peaceable solution of the difficulty, or that there were any survivors of the ill-fated vessel.

In reference to this affair, Rear-Admiral Bell apprehends that "until Government takes efficient action on this case, our countrymen lawfully navigating these seas have to be in peril of life and liberty of person from the barbarities of the people and the authorities of that country, who aim at the exclusion of strangers."

No survey of that part of the coast has ever been made. Com-

mander Shufeldt, therefore, while waiting a response to his communication to the King, improved the time in making a partial survey of the Ta Tong river.

Piracies have occurred less frequently the current year than in some former seasons. They do not often take place during the northeast monsoons, that is, between October and May. The violence of the winds at that season prevents the vessels from being becalmed and drives the piratical junks and row boats from the sea. It also carries American and European vessels off the coast or into ports with too great speed to be boarded. The season for piracies is during the southwest monsoons, when calms and summer breezes with smooth seas prevail.

The Monocacy was instructed to proceed in May last to Bruni, Borneo, and investigate for the information of the Government the circumstances of an alleged attack on, and the destruction of, the residence of the American consul at that place. On the 27th of that month, the Monocacy, Commander Carter, anchored abreast of the Sultan's palace off Bruni, and after executing his mission left on the 1st of June.

In the early part of the year information reached the squadron that the American bark Rover had been wrecked on the southeast end of the island of Formosa, and it was rumored that all who were on board were murdered. Commander Febiger, with the Ashuelot, was ordered to proceed to the locality in question, gain what information he could in reference to the affair, and rescue the survivors should any be found. On his arrival at Tai-wan-Foo, in April, Commander Febiger required of the three principal authorities of the island an immediate investigation of the outrage, the seizure and punishment of those implicated, and the recovery of any of the shipwrecked crew who survived. The authorities expressed much interest in the case, and indicated a desire to obtain all information possible, and to punish those who were engaged in it; but they claimed to be unable to bring to justice the perpetrators of the crime, who belonged to a horde of savages who were not obedient to their laws. They represented, moreover, that it was difficult to employ an effective armed force against savages who were incapable of holding negotiations with civilized people. On visiting the immediate scene of the outrage, Commander Febiger deemed it inadvisable, with his limited force, to resort to hostile measures.

Rear-Admiral Bell was not disposed that so great a crime should pass unpunished, and he therefore left Shanghai in June, with the Hartford and Wyoming, for the purpose of destroying, if possible, the lurking places of the savages who had murdered the crew of the Rover. When he reached Taka, he received on board Mr. Pickering, an interpreter; Mr. Taylor, a merchant of that place, and her Britannic Majesty's consul, Charles Carroll, Esq., who were anxious to accompany the expedition. The latter gentleman had, previously, humanely but unsuccessfully endeavored to communicate with the savages and ransom any of the crew of the Rover who survived.

On the 13th of June the vessels anchored within half a mile of the shore, and one hundred and eighty-one officers, sailors and marines were landed, under command of Commander George C. Belknap, of the Hartford, accompanied by Lieutenant-Commander Alexander S. Mackenzie, fleet lieutenant, as second in command, he having earnestly sought to go on the expedition.

Soon after landing, savages, dressed in cloths and their bodies painted, were, by the aid of glasses, seen assembled in parties of ten or twelve on the cleared hills about two miles distant, their muskets glittering in the sun. As our men approached the hills, the savages, familiar with the paths, descended to meet them, and, gliding through the high grass from cover to cover, displayed a strategy and courage equal to North American Indians. Delivering their fire, they retreated without being seen by our men, who, charging on their coverts, frequently fell into ambushes. The detachment pursued them in this harassing manner out of sight of the ships until 2 p. m., when they halted to rest. While thus resting the savages covertly approached and fired upon the party. Lieutenant-Commander Mackenzie immediately placed himself at the head of the company commanded by Lieutenant Sands of the Hartford, and daringly led a charge into the ambushes. He fell mortally wounded by a musket ball, and died while being borne to the rear. His loss was deeply felt by his comrades, and his commander in communicating his death, pays a generous and deserved tribute to this gallant young officer when he says the Navy could boast no braver spirit and no man of higher promise. He was distinguished for his professional knowledge, aptitude, and tact, and for suavity of manners, which inspired the confidence and affection of his men, while his impetuous courage impelled him ever to seek the post of danger, where he was always seen in the advance, a conspicuous mark and an example.

Several of the officers and men experienced severe sun-strokes, the heat being intense; and as the command was generally exhausted in unavailing efforts to get at the enemy, Commander Belknap determined to return to the ships, which were reached at 4 p. m., after an exhausting march of six hours under a tropical sun.

The experience obtained demonstrated the inutilty of such an expedition against a savage enemy, in a wild country, by sailors unaccustomed to ambushes and bush life. No troops could have exhibited more bravery, but the warfare was one to which sailors are not adapted. These considerations and the prostrated condition of his men decided Rear-Admiral Bell to make no further attempt by again landing his force. They had already done all that was possible, by burning a number of native huts and chasing the warriors through coverts of green jungle and green grass, which are represented as fire-proof at that season.

The Shenandoah, on the way to the Asiatic squadron, touched at Calcutta and remained several days. No American man-of-war having for some twenty-five years visited that port, the appearance of the Shenandoah attracted unusual attention. She was warmly welcomed by our countrymen, and the military and civil authorities and inhabitants of the place.

She left Calcutta December 18th, and, touching at Penang, arrived at Singapore the 31st. From Singapore she proceeded to Bangkok, in Siam, and the French settlement Saigon, in Cochin China. At Bangkok a friendly greeting was received from the King and his ministers.

On the way to her station, the Iroquois touched at St Augustine Bay, Madagascar, and at Johanna, one of the Comoro Islands in the Mozambique channel. At St. Augustine Bay his Majesty King Willy was entertained on board. He expressed his gratification at the arrival of the Iroquois, the first American man-of-war which had ever touched there. At Johanna visits were exchanged with the Sultan, who was found well disposed to our flag. He complained of an indirect slave trade carried on by the French, and that some of our own merchantmen had at different times carried his subjects from the island without permission. Commander English left a circular addressed to commanders of merchantmen touching there, requesting them not to ship or receive on board subjects of the Sultan without permission. The Iroquois also touched at Aden, Muscat, and Bombay.

The Aroostook, which a short time previously had touched at Johanna, was the first American man-of-war that had been in that port for nine years. It being the Fourth of July the ship was dressed and the flag of the Sultan hoisted at the fore, for which courtesy the thanks of the principal minister were sent on board, the Sultan being temporarily absent on the other side of the island.

NORTH ATLANTIC SQUADRON.

The causes which rendered expedient the continuance of a distinct force in the Gulf of Mexico ceased when the attempt to establish an imperial government in Mexico was abandoned. A consolidation of the squadron under Commodore Winslow with that of Rear-Admiral Palmer was therefore determined upon in April, and, in pursuance of instructions then issued, the transfer was made on the 23d of May. This transfer disposed of the last of the several squadrons which our civil war had called into existence. It had been retained as a distinct force two years after all organized resistance to the Government had ceased, in consequence of the peculiar condition of affairs in the neighboring republic, and not from any disturbance with our own territory. From the date of the transfer, Rear-Admiral Palmer has had command of the whole North Atlantic Squadron. In consequence of the prevalence of yellow fever, a number of the vessels have been withdrawn. This disease has prevailed to a great extent the current year along the Gulf and through a considerable portion of the West Indies. At this time Rear-Admiral Palmer has under his command the Susquehanna (flag ship), 14 guns; De Soto, 8 guns; Monongahela, 7 guns; Glasgow, 2 guns; Don, 8 guns; Saco, 10 guns; Shawmut, 8 guns; Marblehead, 7 guns; Yantic, 5 guns; Mahaska, 10 guns.

Although the operations and movements of the vessels of this squadron have been frequently and seriously interfered with by the prevailing epidemic, I am not aware that the interests of our countrymen have suffered from inattention or the absence of naval protection. The principal foreign ports within the limits of the squadron have been visited, some of them repeatedly, and the countries affected by domestic disturbances, or where there were foreign enemies, have invariably had a man-of-war in port when needed. Vera Cruz and Tampico, in Mexico; the ports of Hayti and St.

Domingo, countries afflicted with perpetual discontent and revolution; Aspinwall, Cartagena, and other places in Colombia, where a revolution of government has taken place, have been visited by Rear-Admiral Palmer, and the flagship or one of the squadron has always been near when the presence of a naval vessel would be likely to exercise a beneficial influence.

In August last Rear-Admiral Palmer had an interview at Panama with General Gutierrez, the president of Colombia, who expressed great regard for our country, and especially for American interests on the isthmus, where the faithful observance of treaty stipulations had been considered mutually beneficial to his country and our own.

Preceding and attending the surrender of Vera Cruz, great judgment and address were exhibited by Commander Roe, the naval commander stationed at that place. Repeated negotiations had been opened between the imperial and republican commanders, without final results. When, at length, through the friendly offices of Commander Roe and the American and British consuls, an arrangement was made for the transfer of the place, it was interrupted by the arrival of the steamer Virginia from New York, with General Santa Anna, who proceeded at once to the castle, which was in command of one of his friends. Santa Anna declared he brought letters from the United States Government, and many believed he was its authorized agent. Great excitement for a while prevailed, and a revolution seemed imminent, but, by prompt and decisive measures, this difficulty was disposed of. Santa Anna left the port, and on the 27th of June a transfer of the place and the peaceful embarkation of the foreign legion followed.

Commander Roe is entitled to commendation for the discretion and zeal which he manifested. To his good judgment, in concert with that of our consul, the surrender of Vera Cruz without disaster or bloodshed is attributed.

The naval station at Port Royal has been discontinued, and after shipping to other places most of the movable naval property, a sale of the remainder, and of the buildings at Bay Point, has been effected. Key West has been made the principal depot for supplies for this squadron.

SOUTH ATLANTIC SQUADRON.

The South Atlantic squadron is composed at this time of the Guerriere (flagship), 21 guns; Wasp, 3 guns; Pawnee, 11 guns; Kansas, 8 guns; Quinnebaug, 6 guns; Hiron, 6 guns; Shamokin, 10 guns.

During the year the Brooklyn, Junata, Shawmut, Nipsic, and Onward have returned from this squadron. Rear-Admiral Charles H. Davis relieved Rear-Admiral Godon on the 27th of July, and the latter sailed from Rio on the 31st and arrived at Philadelphia on the 3d of September. This officer has discharged the responsible duties of his command with ability and discretion, and the vessels of his squadron have been actively and usefully employed.

The Shamokin, Commander P. Crosby, received on board Mr. Washburn, minister to Paraguay, and arrived at the line of the Brazilian blockading squadron November 2, 1866. Commander Crosby immediately informed Admiral Tamandare of his orders to proceed to Amazon for the purpose of placing the United States minister at his post.

Objection was made to the passage of the Shamokin through the lines of his squadron by the Brazilian admiral, who was without instructions from his government, but when informed by Commander Crosby that force alone would prevent the execution of his orders, the Shamokin was allowed to proceed, under protest, to Campayti, beyond the line of the blockade, from whence, after the customary preliminary salutes of the Paraguayan flag, a letter was sent to President Lopez. Obstructions in the river made it dangerous to proceed further, and the minister was there landed. The Shamokin immediately withdrew from the line of the belligerents. Although objection was made to the passage of the Shamokin, in order that it should not serve as a precedent, the most friendly relations were maintained by the American and Brazilian officers.

Rear-Admiral Godon during the month of April visited, in the Wasp, the towns on the Uruguay river as far as Concepcion, the capital of the province of Entre Rios. The prevalence of cholera prevented him from carrying out his design of proceeding as far as least as Rosario.

Early in January the Kansas, Commander Wells, left Montevideo for a cruise on the west coast of Africa. This vessel visited the Cape of Good Hope, St. Paul de Loando, Benguela, and Little Fish Bay. No American slaves were heard of at any of these points, and from English officers, met with along the coast, and from the governors of Loando and St. Helena, information direct was received that the shameful traffic has virtually ceased. One vessel, a small brig without name or flag, and without human cargo, had been captured by an English steamer and sent to St. Helena and condemned.

NORTH PACIFIC SQUADRON.

The North Pacific squadron remains in command of Rear-Admiral H. K. Thatcher, and is composed of the following vessel: Pensacola (flagship), 20 guns; Saranac, 11 guns; Suwanee, 10 guns; Mohongo, 10 guns; Lackawanna, 7 guns; Ossipee, 6 guns; Resaca, 8 guns; Mohican, 7 guns; Saginaw, 6 guns; Jamestown (store and hospital ship); Cyane (store and hospital ship).

These vessels have been employed during the year in watching and protecting the persons and property of our countrymen, and the welfare and interests of the United States in Mexico and on the Isthmus, where war and internal difficulties and disturbances have been threatening, or have to a great extent prevailed. They have also been engaged in surveying and exploring the North Pacific Ocean, and in visiting our recently-acquired possessions in the north. Along the coast of Mexico, from Acapulco to the ports in the Gulf of California, which has been the field of operations of the French against the Mexican republic, one or more of the vessels of this squadron have been constantly cruising in port, as the interests of our countrymen seemed to require.

The Lackawanna, since her arrival in the Pacific, has been cruising among the Sandwich Islands, a locality of great and increasing interest and importance. In May she visited the French Frigate Shoals and brought to Honolulu twenty-seven of the officers and crew of the Daniel Wood, an American whale-ship which had been wrecked. Recently she has been engaged in examining and surveying the islands, reefs, and reported dangers which lie northwesterly from the Sandwich group toward Japan. Many of them have not been surveyed, nor their positions reliably established. The acquisition of Russian America will call for more extensive operations on the part of this squadron, and, in connection with our increasing commerce with Japan and China, and the rising importance of the States on the Pacific, a more thorough exploration and survey of the North Pacific Ocean is necessary.

Information in regard to the newly-acquired territory is wanted, and early in the season Rear-Admiral Thatcher was instructed to send one or more of our naval vessels to visit the most important points, to cruise among the islands, and report in detail in regard to the topographical and hydrographical condition of the country, its harbors, productions, fisheries, timber, and other resources. The transfer of the territory was consummated at so late a period that but little can be accomplished until another season.

In conformity with instructions previously given, the Ossipee, Captain Emmons, was detailed to convey the commissioners to Alaska, and General Rousseau and Captain Pestchouff, the Russian commissioner, left San Francisco in that vessel on the 27th of September for Sitka.

It became necessary last Spring to order the Jamestown, then stationed at Panama, to a northern climate, as many of her crew were prostrated with fever, and several cases terminated fatally. The Resaca, which succeeded the Jamestown at Panama, became similarly affected, and both vessels proceeded from San Francisco to Sitka in the month of August.

SOUTH PACIFIC SQUADRON.

Rear-Admiral George E. Pearson was relieved of the command of the South Pacific Squadron by Rear-Admiral John A. Dahlgren on the 12th of December last at Panama. But a single change has been made in this squadron during the year—the detachment of the storeship Farallones. It consists at this time of the Powhatan (flagship), 17 guns; Tuscarora, 10 guns; Dacotah, 7 guns; Wateree, 10 guns; Nyack, 6 guns; Fredonia (storeship).

The continuation of the war between Spain and the republics of Chili and Peru, though not prosecuted with much activity, has in some measure limited the operations of this squadron and rendered it expedient that the vessels should remain chiefly on the coast and in the ports of the republics. The progress of these international difficulties has been watched with interest by Rear-Admiral Dahlgren, who has been prepared to furnish whatever aid and protection our citizens needed, and which the law justified. He has also co-operated with Rear-Admiral Thatcher in preserving the safety of transit over the isthmus. The limits of this squadron, which extend westward to the Straits of Magellan, afford a vast field for naval explorations and cruising, and might occupy the officers and vessels usefully and with advantage to our commercial interests were they not required in particular localities. The Tuscarora has, in fact, been engaged for a portion of the year in visiting Tahiti and some others of the Society Islands. At the Feejee Islands Captain Stanley co-operated with the vice-consul in measures to secure the payment of awards

made in 1855 and 1858 to certain citizens of the United States for injuries and losses sustained from acts of the natives.

The disturbed and revolutionary condition of affairs in Colombia, in May and June, led to apprehensions that a civil war would prevail throughout the republic. At Panama some movements toward increased and unlawful taxation caused dissatisfaction among the foreign merchants, and a public meeting was held by the consuls and commanders of vessels of war, at which a remonstrance against the alleged illegal proceedings was adopted. After some correspondence a compromise was effected, by which the merchants at Panama and Colon (Aspinwall) consented to pay their regular tax three months in advance, without any increase.

Commander Bradford, who was at Panama in the Resaca when these difficulties took place, was vigilant and prompt in attending to the interests of our citizens, and in advising the department of what transpired. The commanders-in-chief of both the North and South Pacific Squadrons, as well as Rear-Admiral Palmer on the Atlantic coast, were informed of the unsettled condition of affairs, and instructed to be vigilant in guarding the persons and property of our citizens in that quarter, to attend to the safety and security of passengers and merchandise crossing the Isthmus, and, for the time being, to have a suitable naval force in that vicinity in anticipation of, and to guard against, serious disturbance, which might be injurious to American interests, but not to interfere in the controversy in a manner to involve the Government, or to violate neutrality. Happily, the difficulties passed away, and a civil revolution was effected without much internal commotion or foreign complications.

SPECIAL SERVICE.

In my last annual report it was stated that the steam frigate Susquehanna was on special service, having been ordered to convey our minister and Lieutenant-General Sherman to Vera Cruz. The then unsettled condition of affairs in Mexico, and especially in and about Vera Cruz, prevented the mission from landing, and the Susquehanna returned with them to the United States. It was deemed important, however, to continue one or more of our naval vessels at Vera Cruz until the foreign troops then in that country had embarked and tranquility was restored to the republic.

Information having been received from Captain W. H. Russell, of the merchant ship Cultivator, that his ship had struck heavily several times on a shoal not laid down upon any chart, about twenty miles to the westward of George's shoal, his vessel drawing twenty-two and a half feet of water at the time, the Department sent the U. S. steamer Don, Commander Ralph Chandler, to search for, and, if found, to survey this obstruction to navigation. The shoal was discovered, and was found to extend about five miles in a southeast and northwest direction, and the soundings on it to vary from three to nine fathoms. The soundings in the vicinity of the shoal change from fifty to fourteen fathoms, and its approach is only indicated by the breakers or rips, which in clear weather are visible for several miles. As this shoal lies directly in the track of vessels bound to and from Europe, it is not improbable that some of the vessels whose fate is unknown may have been struck, and in heavy weather have gone to pieces. The survey made by Commander Chandler was published at the hydrographic office in June last.

The Sacramento, Captain Collins, which was mentioned in my last annual report as being on special service, and which has been wrecked, as is elsewhere noticed, visited the Island of Madeira; the Canary Islands; the Cape Verde Islands; Monrovia; Cape Palmas; Axim; St. George del Mina, Dutch Guinea; Accra; Jelly Coffy; Prince's Island; Island of St. Thomas; St. Paul de Loando; St. Philip de Benguela; Elephant Bay; Little Fish Bay; Saldanha Bay; Cape Town; Mauritius; Point de Galle and Trincomalee, Ceylon, Pondicherry, Comorand coast, and Madras. While at Monrovia, Captain Collins, at the request of President Warner, of Liberia, called a council of the head men of certain unfriendly tribes in the vicinity, and endeavored to persuade them by concessions and conciliation to make a lasting peace.

The graduating class at the Naval Academy this year was larger than usual, and as nearly all the vessels needing midshipmen were on foreign service, the Minnesota, Commander James Alden, was put in commission for the purpose of giving the midshipmen instruction in the first duties of naval officers after graduating, of enabling them to see foreign dock-yards and naval establishments, and for distribution to the naval vessels to which they were to be assigned. The Minnesota sailed from New York on the 24th of July, having on board forty-six midshipmen, and she has visited a number of the principal ports on the European coast, and has passed up the Mediterranean as far as Toulon. She is to return by the way of Aspinwall, where all the midshipmen not assigned to the European Squadron will be detached and join vessels on the Pacific stations.

The Michigan has been employed in her usual duties on the lakes.

LOSS OF THE SACRAMENTO.

The Sacramento, Captain Napoleon Collins, which was performing an important and interesting cruise, was wrecked on the 19th of June last in the bay of Bengal, on the reefs off the mouth of the Kothapalem, a branch of the Godavari River, Madras district. The vessel proved a total wreck, but happily no lives were lost. Two strong rafts were constructed during the night of the 19th, and on the succeeding morning one of them, with a part of the officers and men, was safely towed to the shore. The other, having on it twenty-nine officers and men, was swept out to sea by the tide and currents, but fortunately those upon it were rescued the next day, about twelve miles from the wreck of the ship, by the British mail steamer Arabia, Captain Ballantine, who, in order to land them, deviated some twenty miles from his course. The remaining officers and men safely reached the shore in the boats of the ship and by the aid of other rafts—the last man leaving on the morning of the 21st. The spot where they landed was a sterile beach without water, and the natives could neither supply them with food nor render any other assistance. They worked their way in their boats to the French town of Yanaon, and from thence to Madras. Every assistance was rendered them at these places by the civil officers and citizens, and by officers of naval and merchant vessels, and they were not only provided with the necessities, but with the luxuries of life. Captain Collins, with his officers and the crew of the Sacramento, sailed from Cocanada on the 17th of August, in the ship General Canfield, and arrived in New York on the 19th of November. As is usual in such cases a court of inquiry has been ordered, and is now in session.

IRON-CLAD MANTONOMOH.

At the date of my last report, the iron-clad Mantonomoh was in European waters. She passed up the Mediterranean as far as Naples, visiting several intermediate ports, and returning left Gibraltar on the 15th of May, en route to the United States. She returned by the way of the Canary, Cape de Verde, and West India Islands, and reached Philadelphia on the 22d of July, having steamed during her absence from the United States 17,707 miles.

The cruise of the Mantonomoh to Europe and her return, and of the Monadnock to San Francisco, are the most remarkable voyages ever undertaken by turreted iron-clad vessels. These vessels encountered every variety of weather, and under all circumstances proved themselves to be staunch, reliable sea-going ships. The monitor type of vessels has been constructed primarily for harbor defence, and it was not contemplated that they would do more than move from port to port on our own coast. These voyages demonstrate their ability to go to any part of the world, and it is believed by experienced naval officers that with slight modifications above the water-line, in no way interfering with their efficiency in action, they will safely make the longest and most difficult voyages without convoy.

Steam, turreted iron-clads and 15-inch guns have revolutionized naval warfare, and foreign governments, becoming sensible of this great change, are slowly but surely coming to the conclusion that turreted vessels and heavy ordnance are essential parts of an efficient fighting navy.

NEW VESSELS.

Four new vessels have been launched during the year: the Moholo, of 1,448 tons, at New York, on the 22d of December; the Minnetonka, 2,490 tons, at Kittery, on the 3d of July; the Pushmataha, 1,448 tons, at Philadelphia, on the 17th of July; and the Nantasket, 523 tons, at Charlestown, on the 15th of August.

The construction of these vessels was well advanced before the close of the war, but their final completion has not been pressed, and work has been done upon them only when it could be most economically accomplished. The machinery for these vessels is now being placed on board, and they will be ready for service at the close of the ensuing year. The Guerriere, a vessel similar to the Minnetonka, is the flag-ship of the South Atlantic Squadron, and her performance under steam and sail, and with both combined, has been well spoken of. The Piscataqua, of the same class, is under orders and will sail in a few days as the flag-ship of the Asiatic Squadron.

The steam machinery is completed for seven more vessels of this class, but it is not the intention of the department to commence their construction at present. A smaller vessel is found to be more serviceable and convenient for general purposes, and the building

of four a trifle larger than the Nantasket has been commenced: the Algoma, at Kittery; the Alaska, at Charlestown; the Kenosha, at New York; and the Omaha, at Philadelphia. These vessels will be completed in the Fall and Winter of the ensuing year. They are necessary to replace vessels of the permanent Navy which have been lost or were so much damaged during the war that their further repair is inexpedient. The machinery for these vessels is already completed.

There are several vessels on the stocks at the different yards, upon which work has been wholly suspended, and in all of which some portion of the machinery has been placed. At the Kittery yard is the Illinois, of 2,490 tons, and the iron-clad Passaconaway, of 2,127 tons. At the Charlestown yard the Pompanoosuc, of 2,869 tons, and the iron-clad Quinsigamond, of 2,127 tons; also, the ship-of-the-line Virginia, the keel of which was laid in 1820, and which, when launched, can only be used as a receiving ship. At the New York yard the Ontario, of 2,490 tons, and the iron-clad Kalamazoo, of 2,127 tons. At the Philadelphia yard the iron-clad Shakamaxon, of 2,127 tons. Beside these vessels upon which no work is being done, there is at the New York yard the Java, at the Philadelphia yard the Antietam, and at the Charlestown yard the Kewawaydine, each of 2,490 tons, which are not under permanent cover, and upon which a small amount of work is being done to put them in condition to be at least partially protected from deterioration by the weather, as it may be many years before they will be launched. The Neshaminy and Ammonoosuc, of 2,019 tons, are receiving their machinery at the wharves of the contractors in New York.

The appropriation for all of these vessels was made prior to the close of the war, and the construction of all but the four small vessels whose keels have recently been laid was commenced months before hostilities terminated.

NAVY-YARD FACILITIES.

The experience of the last seven years has demonstrated the importance of more extensive areas and greater facilities at the Navy-Yards for the construction and repair of naval vessels, and their machinery. Our Navy-Yards are too circumscribed in their limits as well as too deficient in their means to build and sustain a Navy which is at all commensurate with our position and character among nations. More enlarged accommodations, where the work required can be better, more reliably, and, so far as repairs are involved, more economically executed, should be provided.

Notwithstanding present deficiencies, and the unfinished condition of many of the shops and buildings, Congress omitted to make appropriations for improvements in any of the Navy-Yards for the current year. In consequence of this omission the estimates herewith presented under that head for the ensuing fiscal year, which will close on the 30th of June, 1869, are necessarily increased.

Seavoy's Island, adjacent to the Kittery Navy-Yard, is a valuable addition to that important station, and when Congress shall have made appropriation for its improvement, accommodations adequate to the public wants at that point may be expected to be made. No funds have been supplied by Congress for establishing any additional works on the island, or for extending the yard in that direction, consequently nothing has been done beyond the repairs and occupancy of the dwellings. Should Congress furnish the means, this valuable acquisition may be easily made available for useful purposes, though the improvements must necessarily be the work of years.

The reason stated in my last annual report for essential improvements at the Norfolk and Pensacola Navy-Yards are referred to, without repeating them in detail, as still existing, and every consideration of policy and duty calls for the necessary appropriations to place these establishments in a condition of usefulness to the country. In some respects the yard at Norfolk has advantages superior to any other station. Accessible as the harbor is at all seasons of the year, and having a permanent stone dry-dock already constructed, there is no reason why the facilities afforded should not be made available to the country.

The temporary arrangements which were made for the occupancy of the Navy-Yard at Pensacola still continue, and the buildings which were spared remain in a dilapidated and scarcely habitable condition. Kitchens and stables, which escaped destruction, are occupied as residences by the officers attached to the yard, with few of the conveniences and none of the comforts of home. In peaceable times the work at this yard will not be extensive, but being the only naval station on the gulf of Mexico, and there being no large ports in that section where naval vessels can be repaired, it is important in an economical point of view, as well as advantageous in many respects, that this yard should be placed in a proper condition.

LEAGUE ISLAND.

The act of Congress approved February 13, 1867, authorized the acceptance of the title to League Island "and adjacent marsh land, including the whole of the creek known as the back channel, from the Schuylkill to the Delaware River, and all the riparian rights and privileges of said League Island, adjacent marsh and back channel, together with so much of the opposite shore of the back channel from the League Island shore as shall, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Navy, be ample to enable the Government to have the sole and exclusive use of said back channel and both shores thereof," provided "the acceptance thereof shall be recommended by a Board of officers to be appointed by the President."

You were pleased to designate as members of the board Rear-Admiral Charles H. Davis, United States Navy, president; Major-General A. A. Humphreys, Chief of Engineer Corps United States Army; Commodore James Alden, United States Navy; Chief Engineer J. W. King, United States Navy, and Professor J. E. Hilgard, of the Coast survey. On the 11th of April the board reported that "had read with scrupulous attention the several reports and opinions on the subject of League Island, and its suitability for naval purposes, proceeding from commissions of inquiry or from other official authorities: it has given a respectful and careful deliberation to the most prominent of the controversial pamphlets written on this subject: it has made a complete study of the original maps and plans of League Island and the adjacent property, among which are included the early original manuscript topographical sheets of the United States Coast Survey; it has investigated the hydrographical features of the surrounding channels and basins; it has entered into a thorough personal examination of League Island, of the opposite shore of the back channel, and of the channels themselves at different periods of the tide: it has bestowed its careful consideration upon the relation of all the various points and details involved to the present and future wants and purposes of the Navy of the United States, and especially their relation to the supplies of material, labor, and the sources of manufacturing power; and, feeling assured that these deliberations, examinations, and studies, added to the knowledge and experience already possessed by its members, qualify it to form an opinion on the subject of League Island, in respect to its geological, topographical, and hydrographical conditions, in respect to defence, in respect to the practical business and wants of Navy-Yards, docks, and dock-yards for vessels of wood and iron, and in respect to its adaptation for all naval purposes whatever, this board does not hesitate to recommend with entire unanimity, that League Island, the adjacent marshes, and back channel, together with so much of the opposite shore of the back channel from the League Island shore as is hereinafter described, be accepted from the city of Philadelphia, and be held for naval purposes by the Government of the United States."

The board also designated the quantity of land on the opposite shore from League Island, which, in its opinion, was necessary to enable the Government to have the exclusive use of the back channel and both shores thereof. A copy of this report was communicated to the mayor of Philadelphia, and he was notified that the department was ready to accept the title to the property whenever it was perfected and offered for that purpose. After consultation, the authorities of Philadelphia decided to accept a modification of the line recommended on the shore opposite to League Island, as it was their intention to lay out an avenue one hundred and twenty feet wide, running the entire length of the island. Chief Engineer King was directed to co-operate with the city engineer and surveyor, and a line satisfactory to themselves was agreed upon. This was submitted to the board, of which Rear-Admiral Davis was chairman, who recommended the acceptance of the modification proposed. The board say in their report that had they been acquainted with the plan of the city improvements, they would have chosen the same or similar lines, and that "the interposition of Delaware avenue, which is one hundred and twenty feet broad, between the north wall bounding the property of the United States and the buildings of the city, furnishes that security against nuisances and against accidents by fire which it was the first object of the board to provide."

It is provided by the act of February last that League Island shall not be accepted until the title to the whole of the land neces-

sary to enable the Government to control both shores of the back channel is complete and indefeasible. As the land on the shore opposite League Island belongs to various parties, some of whom are minors, and as some of it is held in trust, it became necessary, in order to make perfect titles under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, as well as to fix a price, for the city of Philadelphia to call for the intervention of a jury. This jury has not yet reported, but is shortly expected to do so, and I am informed by the mayor of Philadelphia that he has reason to believe that about the commencement of the ensuing year everything will be in readiness to complete the transfer from the city to the National Government. The city of Philadelphia has been ready to transfer League Island proper, on the terms originally proposed, without any delay, and since the designation of the adjoining property it has not been negligent in its efforts to acquire a legal title, in order to comply with the requirements of Congress.

SITE ON THE THAMES RIVER FOR NAVAL PURPOSES.

A clause in the act making appropriations for the naval service, approved March 2, 1867, authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Navy "to receive and accept a deed of gift, when offered, by the State of Connecticut of a tract of land situated on the Thames River, near New London, Connecticut, with a water front of not less than one mile, to be held by the United States for naval purposes." On the 25th of September his Excellency the Governor of Connecticut transmitted to the department a copy of an act passed by the general assembly of that State, appropriating fifteen thousand dollars to aid the city of New London in the purchase of the requisite property, and making other necessary provisions for carrying the act into effect, and inviting me to designate some one to unite with the commissioners to be appointed by him in selecting and locating such a site as is contemplated in the act. In compliance with the request of Governor English, Commodore J. P. McKinstry was detailed for that purpose, and in the latter part of October he proceeded to New London and examined with Messrs. Ingersoll, Blackstone, and Hollister, commissioners on the part of the State, the proposed site. No transfer of the property has yet been made to the Government, but Commodore McKinstry reports to the department that the tract of land which is proposed to cede to the east shore of the Thames River, situated partly in the town of Ledyard and Groton, with a water front of one mile, as provided by act of Congress, and a breadth varying from six hundred to seven hundred feet. The south line of the tract is about two miles above New London, and five miles north of the light-house at the entrance of the Thames. The channel of the river adjacent to the tract of land selected has a depth of water not less than four and a half fathoms.

TRANSFER OF IRON-CLAD STEAMERS.

By an act of March 2, 1867, the Secretary of the Navy was authorized and directed to deliver to George W. Quintard, of New York, for his own use and behoof, the United States iron-clad Onondaga, upon payment by said Quintard, his heirs and assigns, to the treasury of the United States of the sum of seven hundred and fifty-nine thousand six hundred and seventy-three dollars. In pursuance of this act the iron-clad steamer Onondaga was, on the twelfth day of July last transferred to Mr. Quintard, that gentleman having deposited the amount therein specified.

By an act of the same date the Secretary of the Navy was authorized and directed to release to William H. Webb, of New York, all right, title, interest, and demand of the United States in and to the iron-clad steamship Dunderberg built by said Webb under contract with the Navy Department, upon payment by him into the treasury of the United States of any and all sums of money paid or advanced by the Secretary, or by his order, to said Webb on account of said contract. There had been paid to Mr. Webb, on his contract for this vessel, one million forty-one thousand six hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-seven cents, which amount he deposited in the treasury, and on receipt from the assistant treasurer at New York of a certificate to that effect, a release of the vessel took place and Mr. Webb became her owner.

THE REBEL RAM STONEWALL.

The rebel ram Stonewall, which was delivered by the rebels to the Spanish authorities at Havana, and by them turned over to the United States, was on the 5th of August transferred to the Government of Japan at her appraised value of \$400,000. Since coming into our possession she had been lying in the waters of the Potomac, and she was constructed of wood, and liable to rapid deterioration as unused, her retention for our service was not deemed advisable. The negotiations for her sale were conducted through the Department of State, and were made with the approval of the Government.

THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

The Naval Academy continues under the able superintendence of Vice-Admiral Porter, whose report, together with that of the Board of Visitors, is appended. These papers show that the academy is satisfactorily fulfilling the work assigned it in educating and moulding the character of the future officers of the navy. The standard for general instruction will compare favorably with that of other educational institutions, and the special training required to prepare the students for the naval service is thorough and satisfactory. Some additional facilities are needed, both in the academic and steam department, for which estimates have been submitted. A further purchase of land and the erection of additional buildings are also desirable. The department of natural and experimental philosophy, especially, needs enlarged and better accommodations, and the discipline of the academy would be much benefited if all the officers could live within the grounds of the institution instead of being compelled to occupy very indifferent quarters outside. Two convenient dwellings have been completed during the year at a moderate cost, and the erection of ten more is recommended.

The superintendent of the Academy, the chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, and the Board of Visitors call attention to the insufficient arrangements for the sick. The hospital will only accommodate twelve, with two in a room, and the daily average of sick is much larger. Humanity requires that a site remote from disturbing causes should be purchased, and a suitable building erected without delay.

The new chapel is nearly finished, and the large building designed for quarters for the midshipmen is under contract, to be completed in season for occupancy at the commencement of the next academic year.

The graduating class the present year numbered eighty-seven. The undergraduates were at sea from two to three months for practice in the loops-of-war Macedonian, Savannah, and Daic.

NAVAL APPRENTICES.

The naval apprentice system, to which reference has been made in former reports, continues to receive the special care and attention of the department, and the results thus far have been more satisfactory than could have been reasonably anticipated at the time the enlistment of apprentice boys was revived, about three years since. There are occasionally mistaken ideas on the part of parents and guardians as to the end to be attained by enlistment, but by far the greater proportion, as well as the apprentices themselves, have a just appreciation of the benefits to be received. The education of the boys as seamen does not cease with their transfer from the apprentice ships to sea-going vessels. Those in service on board our men-of-war are being educated and prepared for the higher duties of seamanship and such as identify themselves with the navy by twenty years' service, become beneficiaries under the act of March 2, 1867, and are provided for in age. By its policy the government is giving a stimulus to a long desired and greatly needed improvement in the moral and intellectual character of the seamen of the country, and establishing among them an abiding attachment for the naval service.

The authorized annual number of apprentices for admission to the Naval Academy, though this year increased to ten, was selected without difficulty by competitive examination from those who were eligible under the law, and several others, who were nominated from the school-ship by members of Congress, passed the required examination.

The increasing number of applicants for enlistment rendered necessary an increase in the facilities for instruction, and accordingly the loops-of-war Portsmouth and Saratoga have been put in commission, and, with the Sabine, will be used exclusively as apprentice ships. The station of the Sabine is at New London and vicinity, the Portsmouth will be in Hampton Roads and Chesapeake Bay, and the Saratoga in New York.

SEAMEN.

I have, heretofore, repeatedly invited attention to the importance of legislation to improve the condition of our seamen, both in the naval and mercantile service, and I again ask a recurrence to these suggestions, particularly to those made in my last annual report. The apprentice ships will gradually furnish a class of men educated

to the naval service, and every reasonable inducement should be held out to them to continue in that branch of sea life in which they have been trained. The longer a seaman continues in the navy the more valuable he becomes, and it is worthy of consideration whether in lieu of the bounty now paid for the re-enlistment of those who have been honorably discharged, or in addition thereto, an increased rate of monthly wages may not be advantageously given for every honorable discharge, so that for those who creditably serve their enlistments the inducement to continue in the navy will increase with their years of service, until finally, when they are entitled to retire upon half-pay for life, after an enlistment of twenty or more years as now provided by law, their compensation will be such that their half pay will give them a comfortable support if they choose to accept it in lieu of a home at the Naval Asylum.

Additional legislation is also needed to retain the services of those who voluntarily enlist. Punishment cannot now reach a deserter except by the tedious and expensive process of a court martial. It is suggested that a more summary way to deal with deserters be authorized, and that they be by law required to serve the full term of enlistment exclusive of the time they may have absented themselves, as is now provided for the military service, and that they be liable to trial by court martial even if not arrested until after their term of enlistment has expired.

It is also recommended that for the purposes of the naval service the age of enlisted persons, as sworn to at the time of enlistment, shall be held to be their true age, and that persons who have declared themselves to be of the requisite age, shall not be discharged by any process of court, either State or Federal.

EXAMINATION OF VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.

The board for the examination of volunteer officers for admission into the regular navy, in conformity with the provisions of the act of July 25, 1866, has been in session at intervals during the entire year, and has submitted its final report of officers examined. A very small number on foreign service, and some who have been recommended for admission under the last clause of the third section of the act under which the board was convened, have not been finally examined, and for this purpose it will be necessary to convene a board of officers at some future time. The law gave the department no authority to make selections or recommendations, but left the whole matter in the hands of a board, which was to select and recommend the authorized number in the several grades, provided so many were found qualified. The report of the board has not, therefore, received any revision by the department, and the names of the several officers found qualified will, in accordance with their recommendation, be forwarded to you at an early day for transmission to the Senate for confirmation.

RANK OF STAFF CORPS.

The Chiefs of the Bureaus of Medicine and Surgery, of Provisions and Clothing, and of Steam Engineering, bring to the notice of the department the claims of their respective corps to increased rank. It is urged that by the recent creation of the several grades of admiral, of commodore, and lieutenant commander, the rank of the staff corps has, in effect, been reduced. The law now provides for the appointment of fleet surgeons, fleet paymasters, and fleet engineers, but the rank is only temporary, ceasing when the officer is detached from fleet duty. If these grades were made permanent, and to embrace a sufficient number for the service required of the officers standing at the head of their respective lists, and the rank now temporarily given to fleet officers and to the other grades legalized, it is thought that the staff corps would be generally satisfied. It is understood that they propose to bring the matter of increased rank to the notice of Congress, and such legislation as may seem equitable and just is recommended.

RELIEF FOR THE SOUTHERN STATES.

A joint resolution, approved February 22, 1867, authorized and directed the Secretary of the Navy, upon application of the contributors, to assign a public vessel for the transportation, under such regulations as he might prescribe, to Charleston, Savannah, and Mobile of any supplies of food and clothing that might be contributed by the people of the United States for the use of any portion of the people of the Southern States who were suffering from the failure of crops or other causes.

In accordance with this resolution two public vessels of the navy were put in commission and assigned to the purpose indicated. One, the Purveyor, was placed at the disposal of the Southern Relief Commission at New York; the other, the Relief, was placed at the disposal of the Southern Relief Association at Baltimore.

The Purveyor made two trips, one in March and one in June, to the south, as far as Mobile, carrying such provisions and other articles as were placed on board by the commission at New York. The Relief sailed from Baltimore in May and proceeded to Mobile, where she discharged her cargo and returned.

As the department had no suitable vessel of light draught to enable it to send provisions to Wilmington, Congress, by resolution approved on the 29th of March, directed it to charter a vessel to convey contributions from Baltimore to that point. It was found, however, that the employment of the usual freighting lines was more economical, and such supplies as were offered were in that way transported at a cost of \$1,500 89. No appropriation having been made for this service, the expense was defrayed from the contingent fund of the department.

CLAIMS OF CONTRACTORS.

An act of Congress approved March 2, 1867, directs the Secretary of the Navy to investigate the claims of contractors for vessels of war and steam machinery for relief, upon a basis therein named. To give the several claims a thorough examination it became necessary to convene a board, and Commodore J. B. Marchand, Chief Engineer J. W. King, and Paymaster E. Foster were selected. The sessions of the board commenced on the 8th of July, the several contractors having previously been directed to prepare and forward to the department a statement in detail of the several claims, fortified by such proofs as they could furnish. The board permitted each contractor to appear before them in person or by attorney, and gave a patient and searching examination of the several claims. Their report will be submitted to Congress at an early day.

PETROLEUM AS FUEL FOR GENERATING STEAM.

The act approved April 17, 1866, appropriated five thousand dollars for testing the use of petroleum as a fuel under marine boilers. An elaborate series of experiments has been made at the New York and Boston navy-yards, and a very full synopsis of the information gathered is given in the report of the chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering. The conclusion arrived at is that convenience, comfort, health, and safety are against the use of petroleum in steam vessels, and that the only advantage thus far shown is a not very important reduction in bulk and weight of fuel carried.

THE STEAMER AMAZON.

The attention of the department has been called to the interest and rights of the captors in the case of the Amazon. This was an iron sloop captured by the Pontiac, Commander S. B. Luce, on the second of March, 1865. She was appraised by order of Rear-Admiral Dahlgren and taken into service, libeled as prize in the eastern district of Pennsylvania, but under an order of court was surrendered to the claimant, on his paying into court \$5,000. On trial the Amazon was condemned as prize, but the Secretary of the Treasury remitted the forfeiture, and the \$5,000, instead of being paid to the captors and naval pension fund, in conformity to law, was repaid to Dillon, the claimant. Of this proceeding this department was wholly unadvised, and had no notice whatever until after the money had been paid to Dillon, and the time allowed by law for appeal had elapsed.

The captors who were thus deprived of the share of the prize money to which, under the capture and condemnation, they considered themselves legally entitled, will appeal to Congress for the money which by law and the decision of the court they believe to be due them. The naval pension fund is also entitled to its moiety of the money which has been relinquished.

NAVAL PENSION FUND.

The naval pension fund has been increased during the year one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, making the aggregate at the present time thirteen million dollars. This amount having accrued to the United States from the sale of prizes, the public faith is pledged that it "at all be and remain forever a fund for the payment of pensions to the officers, seamen, and marines who may be entitled to receive the same." It is also provided that, if the fund shall be more than sufficient, the surplus shall be applied to the making of further provision for the comfort of disabled officers, seamen and marines. To partially comply with this requirement, the act of March 2, 1867, provides for giving a cash pension in lieu of a home at the Naval Asylum to those who have been twenty years in the service, and it authorizes relief for a selected time to those who have been disabled after ten years' enlistment. The benefit of this act has thus far been given to but seven

persons, and though the number may be considerably increased, it is probable that a portion only of the surplus will be used in this way. I recommend, therefore, that the pension laws applicable to the Navy be revised, and such an increase in the rates of pension be authorized as the fund will warrant. The entire principal of the fund was earned by the officers and men of the Navy during the recent war, and it is eminently proper that its benefits should be enjoyed by those whom the war has deprived of other support, as contemplated by the statute. In this revision provision should also be made for pensions for the admiral, vice-admiral, rear-admiral, commodore, and other grades, both of the line and staff, now wholly omitted. It may also be well to consider whether the family of a person dying in the Navy after a specified time of service should not derive some benefit from this surplus fund, even though the death should not have occurred in the strict "line of duty."

NAVAL PENSIONS.

During the year ending November 1, 1867, there has been an increase of twenty-nine on the invalid pension roll, and of one hundred and eighty-four on the widows' and orphans' roll, making a total of two hundred and thirty-three, and calling for \$49,689 20 more than the previous year. The number of each class on the roll is as follows:

1,679 invalids, annually receiving.....	\$95,674 25
1,392 widows and children, annually receiving.....	226,338 00
7 invalids under act March 2, 1867, receiving.....	756 00

2,478 persons receiving a total amount of.....\$319,828 25

EXPENSES AND ESTIMATES.

The available resources of the department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1867, were.....	\$117,944,060 48
Expenditures.....	31,034,011 04

Leaving a balance at the commencement of the present fiscal year of.....\$86,910,049 44
The appropriations for the current year amount to.....16,555,705 26

Making the total available resources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1868.....\$103,465,754 69
There was carried to the surplus fund of the treasury, on the 30th September, 1867, at the request of the department.....65,000,000 00

Leaving available for the current fiscal year.....\$38,465,754 69
The estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, are as follows:

Pay of officers and men of the Navy.....	\$10,660,580 00
Improvements and repairs in Navy-yards.....	10,141,038 00
Pay of superintendence in Navy-yards.....	443,772 75
Coal, hemp, and equipment of vessels.....	3,000,000 00
Navigation, Naval Academy, Observatory, &c.....	650,999 40
Ordnance, magazines, &c.....	2,342,335 75
Construction and repair of vessels.....	8,690,000 00
Steam machinery, tools, &c.....	4,400,000 00
Provisions and clothing.....	3,400,000 00
Hospitals and naval laboratory.....	141,000 00
Contingent expenses.....	1,532,500 00
Support of marine corps.....	1,614,978 05

Total.....\$47,817,183 95

Since the close of the war no appropriations have been required for the construction and repair of vessels, for steam machinery, ordnance, provisions, and clothing, fuel, hemp, &c. the balances under these several heads having been more than ample for current expenditures. In my last annual report attention was called to the existence of large balances under these heads, and it was suggested that they could be disposed of by Congress in order that future expenditures might be made after specific appropriation following the close scrutiny which has been deemed essential to correct administration. As no action was taken by Congress on the 30th September last, in accordance with the provisions of the act approved May 1, 1820, I requested the Secretary of the Treasury to carry to the surplus fund appropriations to the amount of \$65,000,000, leaving under these several heads an amount only sufficient for the expenditures of the current fiscal year. In the sum of \$65,000,000 are embraced the amount received from the sales of vessels and other war property of no service in time of peace; the amount refunded to the Government by the builders of the Dunderberg and Onondaga, as well as the balance of appropriations under the heads for which nothing has been asked for the last two years, not required for the current year.

In accordance with the views herein expressed, estimates have been submitted for the entire expenses of the department for the ensuing fiscal year, which of course make a larger aggregate than for the past two years, when only partial estimates were made. Estimates have also been made for amounts sufficient to complete the buildings and works which are unfinished, and to place the different Navy-Yards in an efficient condition, amounting to over \$10,000,000. This expenditure, should the appropriation be made, would run through several years; the improvements being of a character requiring time for their completion.

At the close of the war, in the Spring of 1865, the department had heavy contracts in the process of fulfillment for vessels, engines, ordnance, &c. Good faith required that these should be completed, and the expenditures of the department for the past two years have, for these reasons, been necessarily large for a peace establishment. Nearly all the war liabilities are now closed, arrangements having been made with some of the manufacturers of engines for which no vessels have been provided, to take the engines and relieve them from further responsibility. The expenditures of the department were over \$12,000,000 less during the last year than for the preceding fiscal year.

To return to the treasury \$65,000,000, beside meeting the extraordinary expenditures of the heaviest branches of the service for three years, must be regarded as evidence that the business of the department has been conducted with economy, as well as that care has been taken by those entrusted with the disposition of useless public property to realize the nearest approximation to its value; and is a financial exhibit exceedingly gratifying to the department.

THE BUREAUS.

The reports of the chiefs of bureaus, and of the commandant of the marine corps, contain detailed statements of the operations of their several departments during the year, with suggestions for the future. The principal points touched upon are the following:

The chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks reports the expenditures for improvements and repairs in the several Navy-Yards during the last year, and explains in detail the estimates for the ensuing fiscal year for improvements. The immense expenditures for construction, repairs, and for machinery outside the Yards during the rebellion, has shown the necessity for enlarging the Yards and increasing the facilities in the Government establishments, where the work is more reliably and economically done. Nothing was appropriated for improvements during the current year, and the estimates are consequently larger than usual. For the Navy-Yard at Kittery \$717,525 is asked for the Charlestown Yard, \$2,352,135 for the Brooklyn Yard, \$3,913,714 for the care and preservation of the property in the Philadelphia Yard, \$88,888 nothing being asked for permanent improvements, in view of the proposed removal of the Yard to League Island; for the Washington Yard the estimates amount to \$426,415; for the Norfolk Yard, \$646,145; for the Pensacola Yard, \$1,256,885; for the Yard at Mare Island, California, \$531,433; for the stations at Key West, Sackett's Harbor, Mound City, and for the Naval Asylum, \$138,600.

The chief of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting reports that, during the year, seventy-three vessels have been equipped for service, twenty-three of which have been wholly, and several others partially, wire rigged. The Government ropewalk at Charlestown has as heretofore supplied the hemp rigging used in the Navy, consuming in its manufacture four hundred and twenty-five tons of hemp. The tests of the comparative strength of wire and hemp rope, and the reports of the commanders of wire-rigged vessels are so satisfactory that the bureau recommends the erection of a building and the purchase of suitable machinery for the manufacture of wire-rigging. Attention is called to the suggestions of the chief of the bureau relative to offering greater inducements to seamen and ordinary seamen to enlist in the Navy, and also to the necessity for additional legislation to prevent desertions, by providing a more effectual punishment for that crime than now exists.

The chief of the Bureau of Navigation reports that the instruments, nautical books, charts, and other navigation supplies issued to naval vessels, are well cared for, and that a strict accountability is exacted of officers in charge. The subject of compass deviations

has continued to receive the particular attention of the bureau, and it is believed that its efforts will result in furnishing a body of reliable practical data upon which to base a satisfactory judgment upon the quality of the compass and its use on board modern ships of war. The active co-operation of this Government with European powers in developing the dangers to navigation in the Pacific and Indian oceans is recommended. The navigable waters of China and Japan, and in the vicinity of the territory recently acquired from Russia, are now visited at considerable risk of both life and property and the interests of the commerce of all nations require that careful surveys be made. The hydrographic office has prepared a number of charts for publication, some of which have already been issued, and it is steadily progressing in the duties for which it was originally designed. The Naval apprentice system continues to win favor, and the results are satisfactory. The new chapel and the additional quarters for midshipmen at the Naval Academy are now under construction. The accompanying reports of the superintendent of the Naval Observatory and of the Nautical Almanac show in detail their labors during the year.

The chief of the Bureau of Ordnance states that since the date of his last report all existing contracts for naval cannon have been completed, and that, with the exception of the fifteen-inch guns, the stock on hand will meet the wants of the service. There is also a superabundant supply of powder, projectiles, etc., to supply current demands. The trials of the Navy fifteen-inch gun in England have fully vindicated the wisdom of the measure of introducing this calibre of cast-iron ordnance into our service. Wrought-iron gun carriages are taking the place of the old wooden ones, and a steam gun carriage for the manipulation of heavy ordnance, the invention of James B. Kads, Esq., of Missouri, has been tried during the past year with gratifying results. Breech-loading small arms, in lieu of muzzle-loaders, are now being introduced into the service. Old, unserviceable, and surplus guns, powder, projectiles, etc., have been disposed of during the year, and \$355,941 has been realized to the treasury from this source.

The chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair reports that during the last year the work at the Navy Yards has been mainly confined to the repair of vessels. The new work has been limited to the slow completion of the steam vessels, for the machinery of which contracts were made with private parties before the close of the war. Four have been launched during the year, and the construction of four of the smaller class has been commenced. Additional buildings are needed at the different Yards for the economical working of the constructor's department. The chief of the bureau recommends that steps be taken for the professional education of naval constructors.

The chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering reports that no new machinery has been commenced during the year, and that the work at the different Navy Yards has been limited to repairing and fitting out, and to the gradual completion of the machinery commenced before the termination of the war. The Franklin and Guerriere are the only new vessels with recently constructed engines that have made sea voyages, and the reports of the performance of their machinery are most satisfactory. A summary of the trial of competitive machinery erected in other large vessels is given. The machine shops at the different Yards are inadequate for the operations which a sudden demand for war steamers would require, and the chief of the bureau earnestly hopes that the estimates asked for to put them in efficient condition may receive the favorable action of Congress.

The chief of the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing reports that the large stock of stores on hand at the close of the war has been reduced to a standard sufficient only to meet the current wants of the service. He recommends that the custom of the English and French navies, and of our own Army, of purchasing the materials and making up a portion of the clothing used, be gradually introduced into our service, and that a part of the sailor's outfit be furnished him without charge.

The chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery presents not only the usual report of sickness and death in the navy during the year, but gives in addition interesting tables showing the number of sick of each squadron engaged on the blockade during the war, together with the total of each disease treated, number of deaths on the blockade during the rebellion, proportion of deaths to the number of cases treated, and the proportion of deaths to the number of ship's company. The summary shows that from the commencement of the rebellion to the 30th June, 1865, there were under treatment, 114,088 cases; that there were 2,532 deaths, the proportion of deaths to the number of cases treated being .0175. At the close of the year 1865 there remained under treatment 853 cases; during the year 1866 there occurred 24,350 cases of disease, injury, etc., making a total of 25,203 cases treated during the year, of which 310 died; 23,954 were returned to duty or discharged the service, leaving 989 cases under treatment at the end of the year 1866. The proportion of cases admitted to the whole number of persons in the service was about 1.46, or each person was on the sick list 1.46-100 times during the year. The proportion of deaths to the whole number in service, was .018, and the percentage of deaths to the whole number of cases treated is .012, or less than two per cent.—taking the average strength of the Navy, (officers, seamen, marines, engineer service and coast survey included), for the year 1866, to be 17,133. The total number of deaths from all causes, reported at the Navy Department from October 1, 1866, to September 30, 1867, is 395. The number of insane of the Navy under treatment in the Government asylum, near Washington, during the year ending 30th September, 1867, was 24; number now under treatment, 18. The necessity for enlarging the laboratory accommodation continues to press itself upon the attention of the bureau, and estimates for this purpose have again been submitted.

The commandant of the marine corps reports that at the annual inspection he found the troops in a thorough state of discipline and efficiency, and the several barracks and quarters in a creditable condition. The men are kept in constant readiness for duty at sea or on shore, and at short notice could be concentrated, in condition for effective service, at any point where the presence of troops might be required. The number of officers and men attached to vessels in commission is now somewhat less than usual. The new infantry tactics recently introduced into the army has been adopted, and the corps is now being instructed in conformity therewith. Two officers and several men have died of yellow fever at Pensacola. The commandant of the corps renews the recommendation of last year that new barracks be erected at Washington, a board composed of officers, a civil engineer, and master mechanic, after a thorough examination, having reported that it is not expedient to attempt to repair the present structures.

CONCLUSION.

In closing this report it is gratifying to state that, while the reduction of vessels in commission has steadily progressed, and while our squadrons are limited to the smallest number of a seamen compatible with the requirements of commerce, the protection of our countrymen, and the dignity and power of the nation, the vigilance and activity of our naval officers, with their small but efficient commands, have been such as to cause our flag to be exhibited in almost every important port on the globe; and it is a satisfaction to know that the demonstration of a naval force has everywhere been sufficient to cause it to be respected, and to give security to the persons and property of American citizens. Our commerce, which was seriously affected during the prevalence of civil war, in consequence of the countenance and encouragement extended to the rebels by foreign governments, has not, from the continued unsettled condition of our domestic affairs, recovered its former vigor, but the Navy has, in guarding American interests and maintaining American rights, performed its duty, fostered trade, and, with the re-establishment of the Union, will contribute to restore our former commercial prosperity and success. If our ships and men in service are vastly inferior in numbers to other maritime powers, it is a matter of just pride that, for efficiency in guarding the interests of our countrymen, in opening new avenues to trade, in exploring and rendering safe the ocean highways traversed by adventurous navigators, and for every useful purpose, they are surpassed by those of no other nation, and that they continue to assert our rights and maintain the credit and renown which has ever belonged to the American Navy.

To the President.

GIDEON WELLES.

The following is a list of persons appointed in the line of the Army who, since the 1st instant, have passed a satisfactory examination, with their rank, and the regiments to which they have been appointed: Louis J. Schonborn, second lieutenant, Third U. S. Infantry; J. Estcourt Sawyer, second lieutenant, Fifth U. S. Artillery.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

ADMIRAL Palmer has arrived at Havana.

SECRETARY Welles has resumed his official duties, having recovered from his recent indisposition.

A TELEGRAM from Thomas Savage, Acting Consul General at Havana, dated December 4th, announces the arrival of the steamer *Susquehanna* at St. Thomas, and says: "De Soto and *Monongahela* lost. *Susquehanna* damaged. Gone to Santa Cruz to aid *Monongahela's* crew." The Navy Department has no other information concerning them.

REVENUE MARINE.—The U. S. revenue steamer *Andrew Johnson* has gone into Winter quarters at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The officers remaining attached to her are Captain F. Martin, Second Lieutenant B. R. Clarke, and Chief Engineer Eugene Valett. Detached, Second Lieutenant J. H. Delem, First Assistant Engineer Andrew Dally, and Second Assistant Engineer A. S. Lawse.

A TELEGRAPHIC dispatch from Thomas Savage, acting consul-general at Havana, dated December 10th, says: "From consul, Jamaica; earthquakes at Saint Thomas, Tortola, Saint Croix, begun 18th; continues on Monday 20th. Destruction lives, property, great. *De Soto* ashore, washed into harbor, bottom upward; crew saved. *Monongahela* thrown into Middletown, Saint Croix."

THE *Contocook* is being fitted and rigged at the Portsmouth Navy-yard. Her topmasts are aloft and a large gang of mechanics are preparing her for a flagship. The sloop *Vandalia*, 13, receiving ship, has sent down her topmasts and has been housed over for the winter. An iron building, one hundred and twenty-five feet long by fifty feet wide, is being put up for the use of the boiler makers. About 1,500 men were employed at this yard last month.

NEW YORK NAVY-YARD, December 10, 1867.—The *Piscataqua* left the yard on the 10th inst., and proceeded to the anchorage off the battery. She will go to sea this week. The *Colorado's* boilers have been taken out, and will soon be replaced with new ones. Steam has been raised on the *Moshulu* for the purpose of trying her engines. The planking of the *Java* is nearly completed; that of the *Kenosha* is being pushed rapidly forward. Lieutenant-Colonel Broome has assumed command of the marine barracks.

REFERRING to the visit of the screw-steamer *Lackawanna*, No. 7, to Middlebrook Island and reef, lying in latitude 28 deg. 16 min. N., and longitude 172 deg. 12 min. W., about 1,200 miles from Honolulu, and which it is designed to make the coaling station for the mail steamers to China, a Pacific coast journal says:

The current rumor respecting the visit of the *Lackawanna* to Middlebrook Island is that the report is adverse to making it a depot. Underwriters will be wary about insuring vessels touching at an anchorage where a war ship is compelled to lose two anchors, and a schooner another, in ordinary weather. Our old shipmasters look at the whole scheme as the height of recklessness, which can only be accounted for by the irrepressible desire of Yankeeism to expand itself into some new and unexplored field.

WE have the following information from the Pacific coast under date of November 16th. The *Pensacola*, Commander Paul Shirley, and the *Saginaw*, Lieutenant-Commander John G. Mitchell, left San Francisco on the 9th instant. These vessels have gone down on the Mexican coast. The receiving-ship *Independence* was towed down from the Navy-yard on the 9th, and is now safely anchored in Mission Bay, San Francisco harbor, near the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's wharf. A full complement of officers are expected soon for the *Independence* from the East. Owing to a severe hurricane, in which the *Ossipee* suffered so greatly that she was obliged to return to Sitka, she did not arrive here at the appointed time, but she will be due here early the coming week; and as her boats were lost, and was otherwise injured, she will probably come to the Navy-yard for repairs.

THE following is a list of officers of the U. S. steamer *Monongahela*: Commodore S. B. Bissell, commanding; lieutenant commanding, John F. McGlensley; lieutenant, Purnell F. Harrington; surgeon, William T. Hord; assistant-surgeon, William V. Marmion; paymaster, James Hoy, Jr.; captain's clerk, Landen R. Mason; paymaster's clerk, William P. de Behren; acting chief engineer, John Q. A. Zeigler; first assistant-engineer, Isaac R. McNary; second assistant-engineer, John Van Hovenberg; second assistant-engineer, Joseph H. Thomas; second assistant-engineer, Conrad J. Habighorst; third assistant-engineer, Horace W. Force; third assistant-engineer, William Stivers; ensign, Timothy A. Lyons; ensign, Joseph E. Craig; ensign, Leighton M. Ford; midshipmen, William J. Moore, Benjamin S. Richards, Joseph N. Hemphill, Abiel B. Carter, Louis V. Housel, Edward Woodman; acting boatswain, William S. Bend; carpenter, Robert H. Thomas.

WASHINGTON NAVY-YARD.—The *Nipsic* and *Tallapoosa* are still lying at the yard. The officers of the steamer *Penobscot* are expected shortly to report for duty. This vessel is in charge of Lieutenant-Commander Eastman, and is destined for the North Atlantic squadron. The officers and crew of the Coast Survey steamer *Corwin*, Acting Master Pratt, commander, are to be transferred to the *Bibb* to-day. The *Ascutey*, Master McRitchie, is expected daily. The *Saco* is still undergoing important alterations in her rig, and it is expected that she will be ready to leave by the end of this month. The steam tender *Nina*, Acting Master North, is waiting for freight for Philadelphia. The *Gettysburg* is ready for sea, but is detained by orders from the Navy Department. Her officers have not yet been ordered. The steamer *Columbia* has arrived from Baltimore with a load of iron for steam machinery.

GENERAL GRANT.

THE following is an extract from a speech of the Hon. Lyman Tremain, at a meeting of the friends of General Grant at the Cooper Institute, New York:

The war is over. Peace is restored, and the Confederacy ceases to exist. Call to mind, my countrymen, the exciting scenes that were witnessed when the intelligence came flashing over the wires that Richmond had fallen, and Lee and his army were prisoners of war. Strong men wept—the church bells pealed their merriest chimes—and the acclamations of the multitude, joining in the roar of cannon, attested the universal happiness and gladness of our people. In that hour of triumph and joy, there came bursting forth from the swelling hearts and trembling lips of loyal men and women, expressions of gratitude and praise for the great general who had been enabled, by the blessing of Almighty God, to crush the rebellion and save the country. [Great applause.] We are indebted to Grant, also, for that wonderful sagacity which was exhibited in the selection of the right captains for the right places. We owe it to Grant, that Sheridan was placed at the head of the cavalry. [Applause.] We owe it to Grant that Sherman was in command of the Army of the Southwest, and that, by their combined genius, the plan of his campaign was conceived, resulting in the capture of Atlanta, and the ever memorable and glorious march to the sea. [Applause.] President Lincoln related a circumstance, illustrating the sagacity of Grant, and his agency in other movements of the Army. Just before the Baltimore Convention, a few delegates called upon him, pursuant to appointment, and we found him free and communicative, as well as hopeful and agreeable. One of our party asked his opinion on the military situation. "Well, gentlemen," said he, "Grant now has entire control, and I can only relate a conversation I had with him the other day. He said his plan was to hold Lee and his army in the vicinity of Richmond, while he sent Sherman through to destroy the Confederacy. I said to him, 'and the sunbeam played over the President's homely face, making it appear positively handsome, 'Grant, I don't know much about the technicalities of your profession, but as near as I do understand you, you propose to hold the leg, while Sherman takes off the skin.' [Roars of laughter, with tremendous applause.] 'Yes,' said Grant, 'that is what I mean.' With what an iron grasp Grant held the leg, and how brilliantly Sherman stripped the hide from the rebellion—these are matters which have passed into the domain of history. [Loud applause.] My third reason is that, under the administration of Grant, the reconstruction of the Union, on a basis of loyalty, freedom and justice, will be secured.

THE following is a list of the officers and companies of the Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry now garrisoning Fort Buford, Dakota Territory. The garrison consists of five companies, all full, as follows: Company G, First Lieutenant and Brevet Major Thomas Little; Company F, Captain and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Rankin, and First Lieutenant Jno. M. Norvell; Company E, First Lieutenant Martin E. Hogan, and Second Lieutenant Cornelius Cusick; Company F, Captain and Brevet Major Francis Clarke, and Second Lieutenant George Mitchell; Company B, Second Lieutenant Charles H. Leonard; Surgeon of the post, Dr. J. P. Kimball, assistant surgeon, U. S. Army; Dr. W. H. Browne acting assistant surgeon, U. S. Army.

Colonel Rankin is the commanding officer of the post, and Lieutenant George Mitchell, the post adjutant.

Fort Buford is a new post, situated on the north bank of the Missouri opposite the mouth of the Yellowstone River, and two miles south of old Fort Union.

Reliable scouts have reported that the Indians (Sioux) have concentrated between this post and Fort Stevenson, for the ostensible purpose of intercepting the mail. These Indians are reported to be under the leadership of "Setting Bull" and "Standing Bull."

All communications and letters for this post should be addressed via "St Paul and Fort Abercrombie."

BREVET Major W. D. Fuller, First Lieutenant Third U. S. Artillery, has been tried before a General Court-martial on the following charges: 1st, Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline; 2d, Violation of the Sixth Article of War. The Court found Major Fuller guilty of the charges preferred against him and sentenced him to be suspended from command for a period of two months and to be reprimanded in orders by the department commander. Major General MEADE, commanding Department of the East, makes the following remarks on the case:

"The Major General Commanding, on a careful review of the evidence, is not able to discover 'the peculiar circumstances' which the Court quote as inducing leniency on their part. Brevet Major Fuller appears to have yielded to an ungovernable and ill-regulated temper for which he is most justly subject to punishment, and for which the Major General Commanding regrets to say Major Fuller has been already twice reprimanded within the present year, in conformity with the sentences of a General Court-martial. Brevet Major Fuller is hereby released from arrest."

THE following alterations have taken place at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, during the week ending December 10th, pursuant to instructions from Headquarters General Recruiting Service, New York City, viz.: Brevet Captain Arthur Morris, first lieutenant Fourth Artillery, ordered to Newport Barracks, Kentucky, to conduct detachments of recruits to Department of the Gulf, or Arkansas. Should there be none to forward from there he will proceed at once to join his regiment at Fort McHenry, Maryland. Detachments forwarded from depot, viz.: One drum major and eight fifers, two stragglers, and seven prisoners (for trial), for Thirty-third U. S. Infantry, en route to Atlanta, Georgia, under the command of First Lieutenant J. P. Story, Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry.

THE ARMY.

BREVET Major-General Canby, commanding Second Military District, has issued the following order:

It appearing that prosecutions have been instituted in some of the courts of North Carolina for acts of war committed during the existence of hostilities for the suppression of the rebellion against the authority and Government of the United States, and contrary to the intent and meaning of the act of the General Assembly of that State, ratified on the 22d day of December, 1866, and entitled "an act granting a general amnesty and pardon to all officers and soldiers of the State of North Carolina, or of the late Confederate States armies, or of the United States, for offences committed against the criminal laws of the State of North Carolina" [see public laws of North Carolina, 1866-'67, p. 6]; it is ordered:

First. That the provisions of the first section of the act aforesaid shall be held to apply to all persons in the civil or military service of the United States, as fully and completely as by its terms it does apply to persons in the civil or military service of the State of North Carolina or of the late Confederate States during the late rebellion; and that it shall be taken and held to be the true intent and meaning of the said first section, that no such person "shall be held to answer on any indictment for any acts done in the discharge of any duties imposed on him, purporting to be a law of" [the United States] "the State or late Confederate States government, or by virtue of any order emanating from any officer, commissioned or non-commissioned, of the militia or home guard or local police of North Carolina, or any officer, commissioned or non-commissioned, of the late Confederate States government, or any officer, commissioned or non-commissioned, of the United States Government." And that in all cases where proceedings have been commenced against any person or persons contrary to the true intent and meaning of the aforesaid section, such persons shall not be taxed with the payment of any costs that may have accrued subsequent to the ratification of the aforesaid law.

Second. That it be taken and held to be the true intent and meaning of the several sections of the aforesaid act, "that in all cases where indictments are now pending" [or may hereafter be found] "either in the County or the Superior Courts, if the defendant can show that he was an officer or private in any of the above named organizations" [or in any way in the civil or military service of the United States] "at the time—it shall be presumed that he acted under orders, till the contrary shall be made to appear."

Third. That it be taken and held to be the true intent and meaning of the third section of the aforesaid act, "that all private citizens who, on account of age or from any other cause, were exempt from service in any or all of the above-named organizations, for the preservation of their lives or property or the protection of their families associated themselves together for the preservation of law and order in their respective counties and districts" [or who adhered to the Union and resisted rebellion, in obedience to the paramount authority and laws of the United States], "shall be entitled to all the benefits and provisions of this act." And none of the provisions of the act of the Provisional Congress, approved August 8, 1861, nor any of the acts supplementary thereto, nor any other law of the Confederate States, nor of the State of North Carolina, shall be held to abrogate or impair any right of citizenship by reason of not yielding and acknowledging allegiance to the Confederate States.

Fourth. That it shall be taken and held to be the true intent and meaning of the fourth section of the aforesaid act, "that no person who may have been in the civil or military service of the State or late Confederate States government, * * in either of the above named organizations, or in the service of the United States Government, * * shall be held liable in any civil action for any act done in the discharge of any duty imposed upon him by any law or authority purporting to be a law of the" [United States] "the State or late Confederate States government."

Nothing in the provisions of the law above cited, or in this order shall be held to apply to any crime or offence coming within the cognizance or jurisdiction of the civil courts of the United States.

Upon representation that improper and unfair advantages have been taken of the provisions of the seventh section of the act of the General Assembly of North Carolina, ratified on the 10th day of March, 1866, and entitled "an act concerning negroes and persons of color or of mixed blood," [see public laws of North Carolina, 1866, chap. 40, § 7, p. 101]; it is ordered:

That all parol "contracts between any persons whatever, whereof one or more of them shall be a person of color" shall be of the same validity, be established by the same evidence, be determined by the same rules, and be enforced in the same manner as in like contracts where all the parties thereto are whites.

SECOND Lieutenant Maurice Kraszynski, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, has been tried before a General Court-martial charged with "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," "absence without leave," and "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." The court acquitted the accused of the charges preferred against him. Brevet Major-General Emory, his department commander, makes the following remarks on the case:

The testimony in the above case of Second Lieutenant Maurice Kraszynski, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, shows that he took a public horse without authority, for his own use and pleasure, and rode it in a manner calculated to abuse and injure it through the streets of Washington; that he was arrested by the police while so doing, and by sentence of the police magistrate fined twenty dollars, and locked up all night in the police station.

It also appears that he was, when arrested, in uniform, and in such condition as to produce on the minds of respectable witnesses, including the officer in charge of the station in which he was locked up, the impression that he was under the influence of liquor; and yet the court finds nothing in these facts "to the prejudice of good order and military discipline."

There appears to have been no appeal of the accused from the action of the civil authorities, and in the absence of such appeal their verdict must be considered just and proper.

Had Lieutenant Kraszynski pleaded, in bar of trial, these proceedings before the civil authorities, that pleading might have been entitled to consideration, but as no such plea was made, and the court went to his trial, it is proper to consider the finding of the court on the testimony adduced; and the facts as they appear in the testimony do not, in the opinion of the reviewing officer, justify the court in its finding and acquittal, and both finding and acquittal are disapproved. The court will be dissolved, and Lieutenant Kraszynski released from arrest and returned to duty.

In doing so, it is hoped that Lieutenant Kraszynski will not take the action of the court as justifying his conduct on the 8th of October, and that he will not again expose the uniform of the United States Army to the indignity which has been placed upon it in his person by the police magistrate of the Eighth Precinct of the city of Washington.

MAJOR-GENERAL Thomas, commanding Department of the Cumberland, has issued the following order:

The attention of the major-general commanding the department has been called to the fact that enlisted men required as witnesses before general courts-martial generally present themselves before the courts in fatigue uniform, stating as an excuse therefor that they were instructed to do so before leaving their posts.

This is manifestly improper, and it is hereby made the duty of commanding officers of companies to see that men of their companies, about leaving to attend a court-martial as witnesses, are provided with full-dress uniform and side-arms, and that they are instructed to wear them whenever they enter the presence of a court-martial.

Two citizens, living in the Fourth Military District, have recently been ordered to be confined at hard labor by sentence of a military commission, one of them for pulling down and trampling upon a United States flag in front of a registration office in Arkansas, and the other for flogging a freedman. Troops are evidently needed in Arkansas.

BREVET Major-General Ord, commanding the Fourth Military District, has issued the following order:

At the election held in the States of Mississippi and Arkansas—commencing on the 5th day of November, 1867, and continuing until completed—to determine whether State conventions should be held "for the purpose of establishing constitutions and civil governments" for those States, "loyal to the Union," and for delegates thereto, a majority of the registered voters in each of the States having voted on the question of convention, and the number of votes cast "For a Convention" in each State, being a majority of all the votes cast therein on the question, the conventions will be held as provided by the act of Congress, approved March 23, 1867.

The hall of the House of Representatives in the State House at Jackson, Mississippi, and 11 o'clock A. M., Tuesday, the 7th day of January, 1868, are designated as the place and time for the assembling of the convention for the State of Mississippi.

The hall of the House of Representatives in the State House at Little Rock, Arkansas, and 11 o'clock A. M., Tuesday, the 7th day of January, 1868, are designated as the place and time for the assembling of the convention for the State of Arkansas.

Irregularities in the conduct of the election in certain precincts of the States composing the district having been reported to these headquarters, and the vote in those precincts having been suspended to await official investigation, renders it impracticable to promulgate at the present time the lists of delegates elected to the respective State conventions, as also "the total vote in each State for and against a convention." The lists of delegates and the total vote will be published in general orders as soon as practicable after they are correctly ascertained.

MAJOR-General Hancock, commanding the Fifth Military District, has issued the following order:

The true and proper use of military power, besides defending the national honor against foreign nations, is to uphold the laws and civil government, and to secure to every person residing among us, the enjoyment of life, liberty and property. It is accordingly made, by act of Congress, the duty of the commander of this District, to protect all persons in those rights, to suppress disorder and violence, and to punish, or cause to be punished all disturbers of the public peace and criminals.

The commanding general has been officially informed that the administration of justice, and especially of criminal justice, in the courts, is clogged, if not entirely frustrated, by the enforcement of paragraph No. 2, of the military order numbered Special Orders 125, current series, from these Headquarters, issued on the 24th of August, A. D., 1867, relative to the qualifications of persons to be placed on the jury lists of the State of Louisiana.

To determine who shall and who shall not be jurors, appertains to the legislative power; and until the laws in existence regulating this subject shall be amended or changed by that department of the civil government, which the constitutions of all the States under our republican system vest with that power, it is deemed best to carry out the will of the people as expressed in the last legislative act upon this subject.

The qualification of a juror, under the law, is a proper

subject for the decision of the courts. The commanding general, in the discharge of the trust reposed in him, will maintain the just power of the judiciary, and is unwilling to permit the civil authorities and laws to be embarrassed by military interference; and as it is an established fact that the administration of justice in the ordinary tribunals is greatly embarrassed by the operations of paragraph No. 2, Special Orders No. 125, current series, from these Headquarters, it is ordered that said paragraph, which relates to the qualifications of persons to be placed on the jury lists of the State of Louisiana, be, and the same is hereby revoked, and that the trial by jury be henceforth regulated and controlled by the constitution and civil laws, without regard to any military orders heretofore issued from these Headquarters.

BREVET Major-General J. J. Reynolds, commanding District of Texas, issued the following order on the 21st ult.:

The brevet major-general commanding takes pleasure in commending the energy and courage displayed by Sergeant W. A. F. Ahrberg, Company L, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, and the detachment under his command, in their recent encounter with a party of Comanche Indians, whereby three Indians were killed, one captured, nineteen animals and some arms recovered, and the Indians completely routed.

UNTIL the 30th of April, 1868, at forts Harker, Hays, Wallace, Reynolds, Lyon, Dodge, and Larned, and at the posts at Downer's, Monuments, and Cedar Point, where the wood for fuel is entirely cottonwood, two cords of cottonwood will be issued instead of one of oak or other merchantable hard wood, provided the cost be not greater.

CIRCULAR of May 24, 1867, from the Headquarters of the Army, modifying circular of February 18, 1867, so as to permit the enlistment of men for the general service who were not less than five feet two inches high, has been rescinded, and, until further orders, men will not be enlisted into the Army of the United States, for any arm of the service, who are less than five feet five inches in height, except as allowed by circular of February 18, 1867.

LIFE IN A CASEMATE AGAIN.

DEAR CHARLIE: We are settled in the casemate quarters again and are now ready for that visit of which we spoke nearly ten months ago. It required but two or three days to put down the carpets and arrange our little furniture, for in collecting the last and augmenting its amount somewhat we had kept the estimates as low as possible because over our heads, "army fashion," is constantly hanging the Damocles sword of an order to break up housekeeping and take the route. Why, even the carpet-man from the city, as he drove the last tack and gave the hammer a final flourish, seemed to have caught sight of the ever-impending fate, for he looked around with an odd sort of a smile and said to my wife, "You are fixed nicely here; what a pity if you had to go! Guess you think you are going to stay awhile." I was outside the fort at the time, and when I returned I thought the young mistress of my palatial mansion had received a terrible shock. The idea of our not remaining for at least three or four months after taking so much trouble to begin living in the fort had been too much for her nerves.

And we are fixed nicely. I have never seen casemates made more comfortable. The Engineer Department, with an exercise of courtesy, good sense, and kindness duly appreciated and for which I shall never cease to be grateful, has cut down the soles of two useless embrasures to the level of the floor and made what theatrical people call two "practicable" doors, so that I can now get into the dry ditch which is my back yard without breaking my back. Then, too, the most obliging quartermaster in the world has newly painted the walls and fireplaces and in some marvellous way conjured from the low arches a wealth of closets and pantries that would make a town matron wild with delight. These material improvements being completed before our return, we lost no time in commencing what might be called, in our humble way, the adornment of the rooms. We hung the pictures, including "The Black Brunswicker," "Waterloo," and a "View of Venice," and then nailed up the brackets we bought in Chamouni, placing on them some of the small curiosities gathered from abroad. There are miniature cottages, cows, goats, and peasants from Switzerland, an alabaster leaning tower of Pisa from Florence, that one day leaned so far over that it got broken, two busts in biscuit of Napoleon I. and III., and one also of Garibaldi, which, by the way, has, oddly enough, lost its pedestal. Then on top of the writing-desk is a plaster *basso-relievo* of Augustus Cæsar, above which hangs a little landscape in oil, a long way after Bierstadt, that I painted last Winter in the few spare hours I could get on Saturdays from the court-martial.

We had two objects in view in our domestic arrangements; one was to make our home pleasanter than any other place could possibly be to us, and the other was to show what might be done, under the blessing of Providence, with two old casemates and limited resources, by the aid of a good-hearted engineer and obliging quartermaster and a fixed idea that true genius is developed only when fighting against difficulties. How well we have succeeded in all this you shall be the judge when you partake of our hospitality and lodge in our "spare room." Mind, I do not say that it all amounts to much, still less that the effect is perfect; but the result is that we have a really cosy home, where Madam can play the hostess, where I can study all day long, and where the little cares of housekeeping are just sufficiently anxieties to keep up a healthy irritation.

My first care was to go into the chicken business again. The artificer boarded up the space under the back "stoops" and the orderly issued proposals to those of the surrounding people who had poultry to sell, and

I think that they sold not only the poultry, but some of them sold me, too; for the hens that changed owners as "laying hens" by some mistake, arising, it may be, after all, from the ignorance of the fowls themselves, proved to be *lying* hens, and so far have not laid a single egg. We tried raw minced meat and red pepper, threw into the coop beef-bones, and then the plaster off half the side of a demolished room, to give them lime for egg-shells, and yet, at the end of a fortnight, though the henry looked like a deserted slaughter-house yard, the proceeds were just *nil*. As if the hens were not annoying enough, my game cock engaged in a free fight the very first day he was let out, when, as my sense of honor would not allow me to interfere until after the twentieth round, both combatants were nearly dead, and I carried my property into the coop so hopelessly damaged that he has been on the sick report ever since, and is apparently excused from everything but crowing. The prospect of feeding those chickens until Spring without any receipts is not pleasant, for grain costs something nowadays, when so much is manufactured into "long range" whiskey. It would not be so bad if I were only a forage officer and had an elastic conscience, for then I might call hens horses and draw corn for them. The most annoying part of the affair is that they seem actually to enjoy the idea of living all winter without any corresponding exertion, and one of them exhibits so much glee on the subject that she has led me, I am afraid, into the un-officerlike fault of indulging in a personal feeling against her. I no more believe that that hilarious, bandy-legged, puffy-faced, and—not to be severe—utterly abandoned hen intends laying before next March than I believe that General Butler's financial scheme will raise the value of the solitary 5-20 bond that Uncle Steuben gave me to commence housekeeping with last month.

One of our first anxieties was about our "help." The kitchen being very small, we had gotten a small stove and table, and, to keep things in proportion, wanted a small-sized girl for a cook. Kate McCormack had promised to come back and work for us on our return, but, much to our grief, she was married in our absence. She volunteered, however, to assist us for two or three days until we could replace her. She left us the third evening after we entered our quarters and before we had secured a servant. I went to sleep that night with a feeling that would have been desperation but for a vague idea that it would be all right in the morning.

And it was all right, after a fashion, as you shall hear. When I was a boy father taught me the rudiments of cooking, impressing on my mind, as an incentive to learn, that the knowledge would some day be useful to me, and I had proved the value of his advice upon several occasions before the morning of which I speak. The orderly having built the fire, I dispatched him on an errand that would take him to a distance out of sight of the kitchen, for I thought it would not impress him much with my dignity to let him see his captain cooking his own breakfast—and then commenced operations by cutting up some cold potatoes for a stew. It was not many minutes before I had the whole concern in full blast; fire enough to burn up my month's allowance of fuel in a week, tea-kettle puffing away like a young locomotive, and the potatoes garnished with a piece of pork-fat sizzling in a most lively manner. I doubt whether the engineer of the *Franklin* was ever more absorbed with his 9½-knot engine than I was over that radiant cooking-stove. As Madam was ignorant of the culinary art I detailed her to set the table, and then, pouring some water into the frying-pan to prevent the potatoes burning, I went to complete my toilet, refreshed after my exertions by the savory atmosphere from the kitchen. Five minutes had not passed when an unpleasant odor of something burning penetrated to my bedroom. I rushed frantically back and found that the frying-pan was canted over and the upper side of the inclined plate scorched to the color of the Freedman's Bureau. My spirits rose with the difficulty, and turning the whole mass into a vegetable-dish I mixed the fragments well together, so as to give the compound a homogeneous color, slapped on the cover, and turned my attention to "warming up" some stewed tomatoes. Those tomatoes were my *chef d'œuvre*, though I came near spoiling them in my attempt to "paint the lily" by sprinkling them with fresh bread that wouldn't crumble. Madam frustrated the design, however, and wound up the proceedings by making the toast, which effort imparted a healthier tone to her complexion. It was a "high old" breakfast, I assure you, and did not require more than the two performers to serve it up or appreciate it. There was something very unpleasant about the potatoes not attributable to the scorching, and after a brief Board of Survey they were condemned on the ground that no salt had been used in cooking them. You see, I forgot the salt, being somewhat out of practice, but will do better next time. Our usual good luck sent us a girl that afternoon who combined in her person all the accomplishments necessary to run the kitchen, take care of the "spare room," and keep the kerosene lamps and "morning glory" drum stove from blowing up, and now we are all slipping along in our accustomed grooves as smoothly and harmoniously as they only can who live in a well-regulated garrison.

We have adopted the theory that a large amount of happiness can be found in the proper enjoyment of the trifles that make up our daily life; and our system of living, based on that theory, leaves a large reserve of great happinesses on which to draw in the future, like a man who postpones indulging in highly-seasoned food and stimulants until old age makes a new sensation not only desirable but necessary.

But do not think, my friend, that the contentment we do have, despite the before-mentioned Damocles sword, makes us either slothful or selfish. You could not live here as we do without feeling all the springs of your nature becoming more elastic. You would rise early,

find every hour occupied with diversified labor, and the harder you worked the more would you feel like working. New energies would develop themselves, and the days seem only too short for the labor that becomes a pleasure and its own recompense. Nor would thoughts of self alone find room in a grateful heart. For, if that little picture on the table does remind you of Naples, and recall the days when you rode on its circling shores, or if the faint odor that still lingers around those orange leaves in that open album brings back the glories of Versailles, the wind that sighs without tells in low, broken notes of privation, suffering and endurance on the part of less fortunate comrades, whose homes are on the distant plains. And though you have had a share of scouting, and have lived for years beyond the limits of civilized life, so much the more can you feel for them and theirs—so much the more draw closer the bond of fellowship with them, and listen to the wind's story of their brave and silent lives.

REGULAR.

A CASE UNDER THE THIRTY-FIFTH ARTICLE OF WAR.

THE following documents explain themselves:

RUSSELL BARRACKS, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 21, 1867. }

Lieutenant D. J. Craigie, Adjutant Twelfth U. S. Infantry:

SIR: I have the honor, through intermediate commanders, to submit the following for the consideration of the regimental commanders:

On battalion drill this P. M., I was in command of a division. A command was given by the battalion commander which I did not correctly hear, and consequently marched my division a few paces in the wrong direction, when, discovering my mistake, I immediately rectified it, and brought my division promptly into its proper place. I was then, in the presence of the battalion, ordered by the battalion commander, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel P. W. Stanhope, to my quarters, and a sergeant ordered to take my place as division commander, who was, at the dismissal of the drill, publicly complimented for his efficiency, thereby casting an aspersion upon me as an officer before the officers and enlisted men of the command.

In view of the above facts, I earnestly and respectfully ask redress for this grievance, deeming it to be a public insult. I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,

(Signed) L. A. NESMITH,
Second Lieutenant Twelfth U. S. Infantry.

RUSSELL BARRACKS, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 23, 1867. }

Lieutenant D. J. Craigie, Adjutant Twelfth U. S. Infantry:

SIR: I have the honor, through intermediate commanders, to submit the following for the consideration of the regimental commander:

This A. M., at the call for company drill, I went out, properly equipped, to take charge of the company to which I belong, for drill.

The commanding officer of Russell Barracks, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel P. W. Stanhope, U. S. Army, Captain Twelfth U. S. Infantry, came to me and ordered me not to take command of the company (E) until I was qualified so to do, telling me to study my tactics; that he would not have the company handled as it had been by me; that he would see whether he was going to be commanded by second lieutenants or not.

On my intimating that I felt already competent to take command of and drill the company, he replied, in a profane and abusive manner that I was not; that he knew I was not. This, after he, as commanding officer of Russell Barracks, had, a short time previous, expressed, both to myself and other officers of the regiment, his entire satisfaction at my efficiency in drilling the company.

I have the honor to respectfully request redress for this grievance. I am, sir, very respectfully your obedient servant.

(Signed) L. A. NESMITH,
Second Lieutenant Twelfth U. S. Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS TWELFTH U. S. INFANTRY, }
RUSSELL BARRACKS, WASHINGTON, Oct. 21, 1867. }

Regimental Orders, No. 151.

EXTRACT.

Agreeably to the provisions of article thirty-five of the Rules and Articles of War for the government of the Armies of the United States, a Regimental Court-martial is hereby appointed to convene at Russell Barracks, Washington, D. C., on the 1st November, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, to examine into, investigate, and express their opinion on the complaint made by Second Lieutenant L. A. Nesmith, Company E, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, against Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel P. W. Stanhope, U. S. A., captain company E, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, his company, and post commander.

Detail for the Court: Brevet-Major H. C. Egbert, U. S. A., Captain Twelfth U. S. Infantry; Brevet-Major R. H. Pond, U. S. A., Captain Twelfth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant James Halloran, Twelfth U. S. Infantry.

The Court will conduct its proceedings in strict conformity with the laws and decisions of the proper authority governing courts-martial and par. 893 Revised Army Regulations of 1864.

The junior member will record the proceedings.

By order of Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace.
(Signed) D. J. CRAIGIE,
Second Lieutenant Twelfth U. S. Infantry, Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS TWELFTH U. S. INFANTRY, }
RUSSELL BARRACKS, WASHINGTON, Nov. 29, 1867. }

Regimental Orders, No. 169.

EXTRACT.

Before a Regimental Court-martial, convened at Russell Barracks, Washington, D. C., by Regimental Orders, No. 151, current series, headquarters Twelfth U. S. Infantry, to examine into and express an opinion on com-

plaint made by Second Lieutenant Louis A. Nesmith, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, against Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Philip W. Stanhope, U. S. A., captain Twelfth Infantry, the following is the finding and opinion of said court:

"The court finds that, no evidence having been received in support of the second statement of Second Lieutenant Louis A. Nesmith, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, it is not sustained. The evidence adduced confirms the first statement of Second Lieutenant Louis A. Nesmith, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, and the court is of the opinion that the conduct of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel P. W. Stanhope, Captain Twelfth U. S. Infantry, was highly prejudicial to good order and military discipline."

While the conduct and language made use of by Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel P. W. Stanhope, U. S. A., captain Twelfth regiment U. S. Infantry, on battalion drill, to Second Lieutenant L. A. Nesmith, Twelfth regiment U. S. Infantry, was objectionable in the extreme, subversive of all official courtesy and deserving severe reproof, it is still believed that the emphatic condemnation, as expressed in the opinion of the court, will meet the ends of justice, and render further action in the premises unnecessary.

The proceedings in the case are therefore terminated, unless either party shall choose to avail himself of the right of appeal, provided for in the Rules and Articles of War.

The Regimental Court-martial, of which Brevet-Major H. C. Egbert U. S. A., Captain Twelfth U. S. Infantry, is president, is dissolved.

By order of Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace.
(Signed) D. J. CRAIGIE,
Second Lieutenant Twelfth Infantry, brevet captain U. S. Army, adjutant.

THE following is a list of officers reporting at Headquarters Fifth Military District, New Orleans, Louisiana, for the week ending November 30, 1867: November 24th, D. R. Burnham, second lieutenant Thirty-fifth U. S. Infantry; A. H. M. Taylor, first lieutenant, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry; G. P. Cotton, second lieutenant First U. S. Artillery. November 25th, A. E. Hooker, captain Ninth U. S. Cavalry; Henry Larenby, second lieutenant Sixth U. S. Cavalry. November 26th, William B. Brunton, second lieutenant Ninth U. S. Cavalry; Frank P. Gross, second lieutenant Ninth U. S. Cavalry. November 27th, Louis J. Sacriste, second lieutenant Twentieth U. S. Infantry; Henry Norton, second lieutenant Seventeenth U. S. Infantry. November 28th, Thomas H. Reeves, captain Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry; Gaines Lawson, captain Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry; William E. Horton, first lieutenant Forty-first U. S. Infantry. November 29th, T. C. Barden, second lieutenant Ninth U. S. Cavalry. November 30th, G. E. Overton, Sixth U. S. Cavalry; Oliver Grovenor, Fourth U. S. Cavalry; R. S. Coffay, First U. S. Infantry; E. R. Clark, Twenty-sixth U. S. Infantry.

THE San Antonio *Herald* of the 20th ultimo, says:

An express rider from Fort Mason, yesterday reached the city, bringing the melancholy intelligence that Major Thompson, of the Fourth Cavalry, had been killed at Fort Mason, where he was commanding. The circumstances connected with the killing, as we heard them, are imperfect, but are to the effect that a party of couriers from Fort Chadbourne while drunk at a store near the post, got into a dispute with a party of citizens, who knocked two of them over the heads with their six-shooters—the soldiers not being armed. Major Thompson, with his wife, in an ambulance, drove upon the scene and ordered the arrest of the citizens, whereupon a sergeant, who attempted to execute the order, and the Major, were both shot by some of the citizens, who immediately fled. The parties who did the shooting are said to be known, and belong to the Buck Taylor party. A detachment of troops is in search of the murderers. Major Thompson has many friends and acquaintances in this community who will lament his death and condemn the unlawful and cowardly manner in which it was brought about.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL Weyde, a Russian officer, has invented an apparatus for throwing light on objects under water. It is not expensive, and experiments made with it by the Russian and Prussian Governments in the sea near Cronstadt, and in the river Spree, have produced very satisfactory results. A very important use of this invention is, that it enables the officers of a ship of war to discover any submarine mines or torpedoes sunk under it by the enemy. It must, of course also greatly facilitate the recovery of sunken ships and other objects at the bottom of the sea.

HARPER'S FERRY.—Attorney General Stanberry's opinion that the Government holds possession of Harper's Ferry, not merely in trust for the specific use of an armory, but in fee simple, clears the way for the proposed sale of the public property there if deemed advisable to sell it. A large number of manufacturers have, heretofore, looked with longing eyes upon the immense water power at that point.

AT the breaking out of the war General Augur was the captain of a company in Oregon. Colonel MacFeeley was the first lieutenant, and General Phil. Sheridan was the second. All three met last Thursday at the Tremont House, in Chicago, for the first time since they parted company in Oregon. General Terry, the hero of Fort Fisher, was also present at the happy meeting.

BREVET Major-General R. K. Scott, brigadier-general U. S. Volunteers, assistant commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, having reported under instructions from the commissioner of the Bureau, is announced as on the staff of Major-General Canby, commanding the Second Military District.

* We suspect that "Regular's" experience in chicken raising was gained at the Dry Tortugas, or some other post in the South, where well-fed hens, we believe, will sometimes lay in the winter months.—Ed.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1867.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in United States funds, or Quartersmaster's, Paymaster's, or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH.

ABYSSINIA AND THE ALABAMA.

THE Senate debate on Mr. CHANDLER's resolution to "recognize the belligerent rights of Abyssinia," sounds very much like a huge joke, and, so, of course, in great part, it is. But there is such a point in the joke, such a germ of seriousness in it, that it secured a formal and able debate from some of the foremost men in the Senate—REVERDY JOHNSON, CHARLES SUMNER, Mr. ANTHONY, of Rhode Island, beside more jocular or satirical speeches from Messrs. CHANDLER, HOWE and NYE. Many a true word is spoken in jest; and ludicrous as is this league of amity so suddenly struck up between the United States and Abyssinia (of which, doubtless, his Majesty the Emperor THEODORE is profoundly ignorant), the most curious thing is that the further you push the parallel between the year 1867 and the year 1861, on the "recognition" question, the sounder it seems. The funniest features of the comparison are those which look the least grotesque on examination. And, indeed, were it not that the absurdity of the thing is apparent, and that it is not really proposed to square off our national account with England by Mr. CHANDLER's plan, this latter would be one of the least humorous and most important questions of the day.

The kernel of the matter is this: Abyssinia is the stalking-horse which we have dressed up with the clothes of "British neutrality," so that Great Britain may see how they look. Abyssinia is no more to us, of course, than Arabia Petrea; and her dispute with Great Britain is no more to us than the war of the Lilliputians and Blefuscutians. It came of a royal love-affair, it is said—that prolific source of wars among nations. Juno herself was not so vexed at the "injury of her despised beauty" as that tender-hearted and passionate suitor THEODORE by his *spretæ injuria formæ*. Enough to say that whatever nation may get into difficulties with England, we should have precedent for "recognizing" it. And to-day we might recognize Ireland on the same ground that England "recognized" the Confederacy.

Suppose it is said, for example, "But Abyssinia has not asked recognition as a belligerent." No more, we answer, did the Confederacy before England granted it. "But the war has scarcely begun." It has endured, we respond, longer than the Rebellion did before England intervened. "But if acted upon by Abyssinia, this project may ruin England's commerce." Great Britain ruined ours. "But Abyssinia has no navy, and has no right to build privateers in our ports." The Confederacy at that time had no navy, and had no right to build privateers in English ports. "But the cause of Abyssinia is hopeless." So, says history, was the cause of the South. "Then you will admit that it is against the interests of humanity for Abyssinia to succeed in this affair." Not so much so as to have established a slave-holding dominion. "But Great Britain is at amity with us, and we have ministers treated with honor at her Court, and nothing to do with the Confederacy." So was it in every respect with England and "the late Union" and the Confederacy. "Well, at least, you will admit that this project tends to turn a petty hostility into a devastating and disastrous war." Such was the exact tendency of England's recognition of the Confederacy.

With such a colloquy of objection and reply we might easily fill another column, and the more closely the argument was pushed on the material points, affecting the right of the case, the clearer would be the misconduct of England in 1861. Now, if such be the case with an affair like this of Abyssinia—a matter too silly for serious discussion except in its representative light, and as showing what may be done even with an extreme case—what would be true of some genuine civil dissension in England? What would be true if, for example, inflamed by the execution of ALLEN,

LARKIN and GOULD, at Manchester, the Fenian movement should gather consistency, should mature to an Irish revolution, and make head in one or two skirmishes against the royal forces?

Abyssinia, we repeat, stands for England's enemy, be it Ireland, France, foreign levies or foes intestine. We say Abyssinia, and think of the *Alabama*; and if Great Britain should complain that we could really ever discuss an international question without more of kindly sentiment to the "mother country," she must remember her that the lesson has been taught us by her. There was a time in recent history when England could have appealed at once to self-interest and sentiment in us—our time of sore distress—a time when, had some great, broad-minded statesman, some PITT or FOX, ruled British councils, England would have laid the United States, by a single master-stroke of generosity, under a lasting bond of gratitude. Had she only refrained from abusing and bullying us when we were down; had she deported herself only as Russia or Prussia did, we should feel toward her as we do toward Prussia and Russia to-day. But we found the broad arrow of her Admiralty on the guns we took, still hot-lipped with their murderous work, in Rebel forts; her *Alabamas*, *Floridas*, *Sumters*, *Shenandoahs*, drove our commerce from the seas; her press mainly printed encouragement for the enemy and satire or ill-boding for us; her cockney travellers vilified our patriot soldiers; Downing street feasted the Masons and Benjamins; the municipality of Portsmouth toasted and lionized SEMMES; her *Deerhound* ran away with our prisoners after capture; her distant colonies, taking the cue from the parent island, gave supplies and men to acknowledged buccaneers. In a word, England, under the badge of fair play, so acted that *Punica fides* will not live longer to stigmatize Carthaginian treachery than will for a kindred purpose the already historic sarcasm—"British neutrality."

If England is now sincerely anxious to be upon better terms with the American Republic, let her "do her first works." Let her verify her protestations by so far redeeming the past, and so far undoing the unjust work of the past as is possible; or, at least, as is fair and right. Let her offer recompense for the injury done to our shipping by the spawn of her dock-yards. To settle the *Alabama* claims would be indeed doing works meet for repentance. Such language we use, assuming it to be true, that, in the words of the *London Daily News*, Englishmen are saying "there can be no impropriety in reminding ourselves of our injustice, and in confessing our mistake, now that an opportunity for making amends for it seems to be offered to us." If this be so, then, we repeat, the offence being acknowledged, let the evidence of the acknowledgment be as practical as fair-dealing demands.

We said that, had a master-spirit swayed the British State from 1861 to 1865, England would, by a stroke of the pen, have gained for years or ages, the unbought and unpurchasable friendship of the nation which, above all others, she ought to seek as a firm ally. We now add that a great statesman to-day would seize the occasion of the *Alabama* claims as a precious opportunity leading toward the same result. He might, indeed, feel that the truly golden moment was lost; but he would also feel that it was "not too late to mend." At all events the amount of money involved in the claim would, rightly, appear to him trivial, compared with the question of international sentiment bound up in it, and in presence of the fact, that in the hour of England's sore need, every farthing of that sum, penny for penny, pound for pound, may be wrung from her with usury by force.

STOPPAGE OF PAY.

In a recent abstract of special orders from the Adjutant-General's office we observe an order stopping the pay of officers stationed at Fort Foote, in command of that post at different times during a period in which commissary stores were stolen by soldiers, the aggregate of the stoppages covering the value of the stores. Of the merits of this particular case we know nothing, and we refer to it only as a text for some observations on the custom that has obtained of late of stopping

the pay of officers by an order from the Adjutant-General's office for alleged neglect of duty or disregard of orders. The greater number of these stoppages are made against officers on recruiting service charged with the enlistment of minors in violation of the orders of the General-in-Chief. Before we offer any suggestions upon the legality and effect of these orders, we may say that the order forbidding the enlistment of minors, and declaring the penalty for its violation, seems to us harsh and unfair, since it recognizes no excuse that may be offered by the recruiting officer. The parallel regulation in the British service authorizes such stoppages only in case of *culpable negligence* on the part of the recruiting officer, while in our service the matter has been pushed so far as to stop the pay of an officer of twenty years' standing in a case where the recruit passed the examination at the rendezvous, at the depot, at his regiment, and was in service nearly a year before being discharged.

We are of opinion that these orders are without the sanction of law and that their effect is injurious to the discipline of the Army, and we had hoped that among the many reforms instituted by the Secretary of War *ad interim* we should have seen the verdicts of courts substituted for the *ex parte* trials in the Adjutant-General's office.

What object can be obtained by proceeding against officers, as in the Fort Foote case, except to save expense? Such a reason, pushed to its legitimate conclusion, would put the entire Army at the feet of the officers of the Adjutant-General's Department. Army officers have a very natural prejudice in favor of courts as opposed to the investigations and recommendations of staff officers, and nothing has done so much to bring the line of the Army to look upon the Adjutant-General's Bureau as its natural enemy, as the disregard shown to individual rights by such orders as those we are discussing. If we know anything about the feeling of the Army, there is a universal wish that the extraordinary powers lodged in the Adjutant-General's office during the war be curtailed, and that orders affecting the character and pay of officers may be issued only after the finding of appropriate Boards or Courts, when the officer himself may make his defence. We know that the Secretary of War would not lend his powerful influence to perpetuate this state of things if he knew how bitter a feeling is created in the Army on account of the assumption and retention of such unusual power by the staff departments.

We all know how difficult it is for an officer to obtain any satisfactory hearing when the subject of one of these orders. The officer who makes the report on which the order is issued, is urged by his pride to see that there is no revocation, and it is of course out of the question for the Secretary to make a personal examination into the merits of each case.

Letters and remonstrances are pigeon-holed or answered by the very officers who cause the publication of the order, and we suppose the majority of officers who are conscious of faithful performance of duty let the matter go without any serious attempt at redress. It must, however, be unnecessary to argue further against the wisdom of allowing individual officers to usurp the functions of courts. We come now to the more important question whether these orders have any sanction of law.

We assume as a settled point that the Secretary of War has no control over an officer's or a soldier's pay, except where the law specially gives it to him. Congress having passed laws from time to time declaring that the pay of officers and soldiers may, or shall be stopped for certain reasons, it follows as a rule that it was never expected that additions to the cases provided for by Congress should be made by the War Department. Even where Congress has authorized a stoppage of pay it is worthy of notice, that the law almost, if not quite without exception, uses the language "on conviction by a Court-martial," or words of this import. Take for instance the Thirty-sixth Article of War (which seems by the way to bear on our text), which declares that any commissioned officer * * * who shall be convicted at a general Court-martial

of having through neglect * * * * * suffered any of the provisions * * * belonging to the United States to become lost or damaged, shall at his own expense make good the loss or damage, and shall moreover forfeit all his pay, and be dismissed from the service." Whether paragraph 1027 of the regulations is intended to take the place of the Thirty-sixth Article of War or not, we cannot say. Regulations are of course law when adopted by Congress.

This paragraph furnishes, so far as we remember, the only excuse for the stoppage of pay to reimburse the Government for loss sustained by alleged neglect, and here the Board of Survey takes the place of a Court-martial. By the Article of War the court is obliged to dismiss the officer on conviction. The regulation seems to have been prepared in order that an officer might be proceeded against without subjecting him to all the penalties prescribed by the Article of War, but we submit that there is nothing in it, or in any other regulation or law that authorizes an *ex parte* case to be made up against an officer in one of the bureaus, and an order following not only stopping his pay but pronouncing him guilty of neglect of duty or disobedience of orders.

CASUALTIES AT THE BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG.

In examining recently an account of the battle of Fredericksburg, we were struck by the remarkable number of casualties alleged to have occurred in one of the assaulting divisions, and having satisfied ourselves that the figures are entirely reliable, we give them below somewhat in detail. The division to which we refer is HANCOCK's division, of the Second corps—the division organized by General SUMNER—and subsequently commanded by General RICHARDSON, until he was killed at Antietam.

Two regiments of this division were detailed to cover the bridge party at the Lacy House. Here Colonel BULL, of the Sixty-sixth New York, and Colonel CHAPMAN, of the Fifty-second New York, were wounded; the former mortally, the latter dangerously.

On the 13th the division was engaged in the murderous attack on the stone wall at the foot of Marye's Heights. The three brigades were each in line with intervals of two hundred yards, the leading brigade being General ZOOK's, the next the Irish brigade, and the last General CALDWELL's. We do not propose to give any account of the attack. The reason it failed is pretty well known to all now. It is enough to say that the troops had to march by the flank for several hundred yards before forming in line, cross a narrow bridge over the stringers, and then move by the flank parallel to the enemy's works for the length of a brigade—and finally to remove three separate strong post-and-board fences obstructing the ground over which the attack was made, and all this under the deadly fire of musketry and artillery at close range.

General HANCOCK detailed a staff officer to accompany each brigade, and all of them were wounded during the day.

The Fifty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, of the leading brigade, commanded by Colonel JOHN R. BROOKE, now lieutenant-colonel of the Thirty-seventh Infantry, went into action with fourteen officers and three hundred men. It had killed and wounded eight officers and one hundred and forty seven men.

The Seventh New York Volunteers, commanded by Colonel VON SCHACK, took into action twenty-five officers and four hundred and sixty-three men, of which it lost in killed and wounded eighteen officers and two hundred and twenty-seven men.

The Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, Colonel EDWARD E. CROSS, took into action twenty-three officers and two hundred and eighty men, of which it lost in killed and wounded seventeen officers and one hundred and sixty-five men. This regiment had five different commanders during the action.

The Fifty-second New York Volunteers, Colonel PAUL FRANK, numbered eleven officers and one hundred and forty-nine men. Its killed and wounded were two officers and forty-three men.

In the Irish brigade, the Sixty-ninth New York, Colonel ROBERT NUGENT, numbered nineteen officers and two hundred and nineteen men. Its killed and wounded numbered sixteen officers and one hundred and twelve men. This regiment was marched off the field by its fourth commander.

The Eighty-eighth New York, same brigade, Colonel PATRICK KELLY, numbered twenty-three officers and two hundred and twenty-nine men, of which twelve officers and one hundred and fifteen men were killed or wounded.

The Twenty-eighth Massachusetts regiment, same brigade, Colonel RICHARD BYRNES, numbered sixteen officers and four hundred men. Its loss in killed and wounded was seven officers and one hundred forty-nine men.

The Sixty-third New York, same brigade, numbered seventeen officers and one hundred and forty-five men. Its loss in killed and wounded was seven officers and thirty-seven men.

The One Hundred and Sixteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Colonel DENNIS HEENAN, numbered seventeen officers and two hundred and thirty men. Its killed and wounded numbered twelve officers and seventy-seven men. The fourth officer in command brought the regiment off the field.

The Sixty-first and Sixty-fourth New York, Colonel NELSON A. MILES, now colonel Fortieth U. S. Infantry, numbered twenty-seven officers and four hundred and eight men. The battalion lost three officers and one hundred and five men, and was marched off the field by its third commander.

The One Hundred and Forty-fifth Pennsylvania, Col. H. L. BROWN, took into action twenty-five officers and four hundred and seventy-five men. It had twelve officers and two hundred and twelve men killed and wounded. This regiment lost its commander during the action.

The Second Delaware Volunteers, Col. W. P. BAILEY, numbered nineteen officers and two hundred and twenty-five men. Its killed and wounded numbered seven officers and forty-seven men. This regiment had its third commander during the battle.

The Twenty-seventh Connecticut Volunteers, Col. H. L. BOSTWICK, numbered twenty-four officers and three hundred and sixty men. Its loss in killed and wounded was six officers and one hundred and seven men.

The Eighty-first Pennsylvania, Col. H. BOYD MCKEAN, numbered sixteen officers and two hundred and forty-five men. It lost in killed and wounded twelve officers and one hundred and sixty-four men. The regiment marched off the field under its fourth commander.

The Fifty-seventh New York, Col. ZOOK, numbered eleven officers and one hundred and eighty-one men, of whom nine officers and seventy men were killed or wounded. This regiment left the field under its third commander.

The Sixty-sixth New York numbered thirteen officers and two hundred and twenty-five men, of whom six officers and seventy-eight men were killed or wounded. Its fourth commander marched it off the field.

It will be seen that the sixteen regiments (one battalion of two small regiments consolidated) of this division went into action with an aggregate of three hundred and eight officers and forty-five hundred and thirty-four men. Of the officers one hundred and fifty-eight, or over fifty per cent., were killed and wounded. Of the men eighteen hundred and fifty-five, or about forty-one per cent., were killed and wounded. Twenty-five commanding officers were killed or wounded.

The percentage of losses in the sixteen regiments, officers and men aggregated, was within a fraction of forty-two per cent.

The Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers lost seventy-three per cent. of its officers, and nearly fifty-nine per cent. of its men.

The Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers lost the enormous proportion of seventy-five per cent. of its officers, and sixty-seven per cent. of its enlisted men.

The Sixty-ninth New York lost over eighty-four per cent. of its officers, and over fifty-one per cent. of its enlisted men.

General SHERMAN lost from his division at Shiloh, well known to have been one of the severest battles of the war, fifteen hundred and ninety-three killed and wounded. His division embraced, as near as can be ascertained from his biographers, Bowman and Irwin, sixteen new regiments, which it is probable numbered over six thousand men.

General SHERIDAN lost in killed and wounded at Stone River, from his division, numbering in the aggregate a little over five thousand, nearly twenty-one per cent., or eleven hundred and twenty-eight men, including his three brigade commanders.

General CLEVE's small division of thirty-eight hundred men lost a little over twenty-seven per cent. in the same action.

General HUMPHRIES, in his testimony before the committee on the conduct of the war, gives the loss of his division at Gettysburg as over nineteen hundred in killed and wounded out of a total of less than five thousand men for duty. This is nearly forty per cent. The greater part of the loss was sustained under the most disheartening circumstances, the division falling back from General SICKLES' advanced line to the main line directly in the face of the enemy. That the division did

not go to pieces is greatly to the credit of the men and the division commander.

In the same battle, under similar circumstances, the Regular division commanded by General AYRES lost nearly fifty per cent of its numbers, though we are unable to give the exact figures.

The Third corps lost at Chancellorsville, a little over four thousand out of eighteen thousand.

The Second corps lost at Antietam about five thousand two hundred, out of about thirteen thousand, as we remember the figures, and about forty-four per cent of all engaged at Gettysburg. We have heard it stated that this corps lost twenty-five brigade commanders and one hundred and twenty-five regimental commanders on the GRANT campaign to Petersburg.

General ROSECRANZ lost twenty per cent of all engaged at Stone River.

The Confederate Army lost very heavily in some of its assaults, particularly at Franklin, Tenn., and in PICKETT's division on the 3d of July, at Gettysburg, when according to SWINTON, only a single field officer escaped unhurt. We suppose this does not refer to any who were captured.

THE Senate has devoted a good deal of attention to Mr. CHANDLER's satirical resolution to recognize the belligerent rights of Abyssinia, but as we discuss the subject at length elsewhere there is no need to more than allude to it here. On motion of Mr. HARLAN the military committee was instructed to inquire into the propriety of so amending the act entitled "An act declaring and fixing the rights of Volunteers as part of the Army, approved March 2, 1867," so as to include previous serving in the Marine corps, in establishing relative rank in the Army; also, as to the propriety of authorizing the Secretary of War to take into consideration, in all cases, previous rank as well as previous service, in determining the position of an officer. On motion of Mr. SUMNER the President was requested to furnish to the Senate a copy of all the correspondence and papers touching the recognition of the belligerent rights of the rebels by England, and also concerning the depredations of the *Alabama*. On motion of Mr. WILSON the Committee on Naval Affairs was instructed to inquire what changes have been made in the organization of the several Navy-yards, in the various civil departments thereof; and to report what legislation, if any, is necessary for the improvement of the system in force and for the more judicious and economical expenditure of the public money. The joint resolution to allow Admiral THATCHER to accept a decoration from the King of the Hawaiian Islands was passed. The Postmaster-General communicated to the Senate, in response to a request, the proceedings and findings of the board appointed to investigate the circumstances of the robbery of Major GEORGE E. GLENN, paymaster at Fort Boise, Idaho Territory.

The House sent back to the Military Committee the bill providing that the President shall not assume to restore dismissed Army officers to the service without the consent of the Senate for the purpose of having it amended so that it shall embrace in its provisions the terms of the FITZ JOHN PORTER Court-martial sentence, which it will be remembered, disqualify him from holding any office whatever in the gift of the Government. The bill providing that commissions by brevet shall only be conferred in time of war, and for distinguished service in presence of the enemy was passed. It does not interfere with commissions already issued, but it revokes the regulation by which officers have the right to appear on parade in the uniform of their brevet rank. Mr. HAWKINS reported back adversely the wise proposition to pay the Army once a week. The Hudson River Railroad was permitted to run its railway through the Government lands at West Point. The House concurred with the Senate in reviving the joint ordnance committee. Mr. LOGAN advocated the consolidation of the ordnance department of the Army and Navy. The committee has already met and reorganized by the selection of Generals LOGAN and BUTLER as a sub-committee to take evidence. General RAMSAY, formerly chief of the Ordnance Bureau is under examination. The joint resolution directing the Secretary of War to furnish, on application of the Governor of the State, certified copies of the muster in and muster out rolls of Volunteer organizations. The military committee was directed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a United States Arsenal at Fort David Russell, at Cheyenne, Dakota Territory.

ACCORDING to the Italian War Office, there was a time during the late difficulties when the Government had an effective force of 25,000 or 30,000 men within twenty miles of the Roman frontier; and had the Government possessed sufficient nerve to order an advance, the Pope would, undoubtedly, have been obliged to succumb."

ARMY PERSONAL.

PRUSSIA now makes its soldiers step one hundred and twenty paces in a minute, the same as the French. The old rate was one hundred paces.

AN exchange informs us that Colonel Vegesack, who commanded a regiment of New York Volunteers during the war, is now a major-general in the Swedish army.

FIRST Lieutenant William Harper, Jr., Sixth U. S. Cavalry, has been appointed major U. S. Army by brevet, for gallant and meritorious services during the war, to date from March 2, 1867.

BREVEE Captain R. H. Montgomery, first lieutenant and adjutant Fifth U. S. Cavalry, has been appointed (temporarily) aide-de-camp to Brevet Major-General Emory, commanding the Department of Washington.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Fifth Military District, has been granted Brevet Major-General Wesley Merritt, lieutenant-colonel Ninth U. S. Cavalry.

BREVEE Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. C. Lee, assistant quartermaster, is, in addition to his present duties, announced as chief quartermaster of the District of Texas during the absence of Brevet Brigadier-General J. A. Potter, major and quartermaster.

Second Lieutenant J. W. Steele, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry, has been assigned to duty (temporarily) on the staff of Brevet Major-General A. J. Smith, commanding Department of the Missouri, as acting assistant inspector general of the Department.

LEAVE of absence for the period of twenty days has been granted to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. Duryea, captain First Artillery, First Lieutenant Richard Churchill, Fourth Artillery, and Second Lieutenant H. D. Wallen, Third Artillery.

BREVEE Lieutenant-Colonel E. Gay, major Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, having reported at Headquarters Fifth Military District, in compliance with orders, has been ordered to proceed to Galveston, Texas, and report to the commanding officer for duty with his regiment.

So much of paragraph 7, Special Orders No. 201, current series, from Headquarters Fifth Military District, as directs Brevet Major-General Joseph A. Mower, colonel Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry, to join the headquarters of his regiment at Greenville, Louisiana, has been suspended. General Mower will remain in New Orleans awaiting further orders.

BREVEE Major-General J. B. McIntosh, lieutenant-colonel Forty-second (Veteran) Infantry, having been detached from duty with his regiment in orders from the War Department, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel T. F. Rodenbough, major Forty-second Infantry, has been ordered to repair to Madison Barracks and assume command of the regiment.

UPON the recommendation of the medical director, Fifth Military District, Second Lieutenant George W. Roby, First U. S. Infantry, will accompany Brevet Major-General Frank Wheaton, lieutenant-colonel Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry, to Washington, D. C. Lieutenant Roby has permission to apply to the War Department for fifty days' leave of absence upon the completion of this duty.

A MILITARY Commission is ordered to convene at the post of Washington, Arkansas, at ten o'clock A. M., on the 20th inst., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such prisoners as may be brought before it. Detail for the Commission: Brevet Colonel J. E. Tourtellotte, captain Twenty-eighth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant G. P. Radetzki, Twenty-eighth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Thomas M. Wenle, Twenty-eighth U. S. Infantry; Captain Harry M. Smith, Twenty-eighth U. S. Infantry, judge-advocate. The above commission has been ordered to convene at Camden, Arkansas, on the 30th inst.

THE following promotions having been made of officers belonging to regiments in the Fifth Military District, the officers named are ordered to join the companies to which they have been promoted, as soon as practicable, unless on detached service: Seventeenth U. S. Infantry—Second Lieutenant C. H. Green, Company G; Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, to be first lieutenant *vice* Stephenson, which carries him to Company E. Twentieth U. S. Infantry—Second Lieutenant L. M. Morris, Company K, Twentieth U. S. Infantry, to be first lieutenant *vice* Hicks, which carries him to Company K; Second Lieutenant G. E. Viall, Company E, Twentieth U. S. Infantry, to be first lieutenant *vice* Maxwell, which carries him to Company B.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Riley, Kansas, on Monday, December 9, 1867, at ten o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such prisoners as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the court: Brevet Major George M. Sternberg, assistant surgeon U. S. Army; Brevet Major Henry T. Davis, captain Tenth Cavalry; Brevet Major J. G. Vandewelle, captain Tenth Cavalry; Brevet Captain Thomas J. Spencer, first lieutenant Tenth Cavalry; First Lieutenant N. D. Badger, Tenth Cavalry; First Lieutenant Thomas C. Lebo, Tenth Cavalry; First Lieutenant Robert G. Smithers, Tenth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant S. L. Woodward, Tenth Cavalry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Dodge, Kansas, on Thursday, December 12, 1867, at ten o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such prisoners as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the court: Brevet Major John H. Page, captain Third Infantry; Captain William Thompson, Seventh Cavalry; First Lieutenant George W. H. Stouch, Third Infantry; Assistant Surgeon A. D. Wilson, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant D. W. Wallingford, Seventh Cavalry; Second Lieutenant Philip Reade, Third Infantry; Second Lieutenant C. M. Shepperd, Third Infantry; Second Lieutenant Thomas S. Wallace, Third Infantry, judge-advocate.

CORRESPONDENCE.

NAVAL LIFE INSURANCE FUND.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In your issue of October 5th I noticed an article from Captain Guest, U. S. N., containing a proposed bill for the establishment of a naval life insurance fund, and as the same has many objectionable features I propose to review it and point them out. I do not anticipate that Congress will entertain the project favorably in any shape, especially in its present form, as it proposes to lay a tax on each officer, to be deducted monthly from his salary like any other tax, being an unconstitutional proceeding in my judgment. People can be taxed against their will only for the support of the Government, and in proportion to the enumeration directed to be taken in the Constitution, article I, sections 2 and 9. There is no constitutional provision that will warrant any assessment on the pay of officers of the Navy other than for the support of the Government, and in proportion to that levied on other citizens having a like income. The clause article I, section 8, "to make rules," etc., has reference only to our military control, and not to our rights as citizens. If it be contended that we are not citizens, then we are either not subject to taxation at all or else the Congress has power to tax us *ad libitum*, for neither of which I fancy will any one contend. The argument that this tax is for our benefit does not alter the legality of the thing even if true, which in this case is true only with those who remain permanently in the service, for those who resign not only lose the benefit of the act but also forfeit the premiums already paid. Now there are many officers to whom the Navy does not offer sufficient inducement for them to remain permanently in the service, and who contemplate resigning at the first favorable opportunity, but by this bill they must pay, while they remain, an involuntary tax to support the representatives of those whom the Government pays enough to induce them to spend their lives in the service. The injustice, and even oppression of the bill, therefore, become apparent. If it was made voluntary and to be continued after resignation, or the premiums refunded at the election of the officer resigning, it would have a show of fairness, but in that case those who do not contribute and yet die in the service, are robbed of the benefit of so much of the pension fund.

It strikes me that if there is a surplus of the pension fund the rate of pensions had better be increased in proportion to such excess, thus giving the representatives of the deceased a monthly sum which, in many cases, would be preferable to a large amount paid at once. Or, following the language of the act of July, 1862, let the surplus "be applied to the making of further provisions for the comfort of disabled officers, seamen, and marines," by increasing the pay of retired officers, and such other provisions for the men as may be deemed advisable.

The theory that "the naval pension fund, being one half the proceeds of the sale of prizes, *equitably* belongs to officers and men in the ratio of their respective shares of prize money," is perfectly absurd, and I am surprised that any officer should advocate such a doctrine. Because a benevolent Government, by way of encouragement, gives the captors one half the proceeds of prizes taken during war, are they therefore entitled to the whole of it? Suppose they were not given any of it—would they in that case be any more entitled to prize money than those who did their duty in any other quarter? If your correspondent will refer to I Kent's Comts., Lecture 5, he will there see that prizes are in all cases for the *government jure republice*, and that the share given to the captors is gratuitous, and offered by way of encouragement, and that his theory is untenable. Instead of *equitably* belonging to so and so, there is not a particle of equity in it. If equity ruled in the matter of prize money, there would be a *pro rata* distribution among the officers and men in the Navy during the war, instead of making some officers wealthy, while others, deprived of all opportunity to take prizes, serving in inland waters and exposed to the accumulated dangers of war and unhealthy regions, receive only their meagre pay. The gallant Navy, truly so-called, who braved all the dangers of the war in almost daily conflict with the enemy, are ill-disposed to hear of *equitable interest* in the pension fund, from those who roamed the sea in fine steamers, capturing unresisting merchantmen, even though they did receive only one half the proceeds of their sale.

P. A. S.

RECORD OF CIVILIAN APPOINTMENTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: A few weeks since I noted in your journal a letter from the compiler of records of civilian appointments in the Army, ascribing certain reasons why officers might fail to send in their statements of service. Firstly, that their record was so good as to render unnecessary its publication; and, secondly, they had no record of importance sufficient to warrant the printing. I set aside a trifle of brusqueness in the form of expression in which the above was given, knowing perfectly well, as I do, that no offence was intended even to the most fastidious, and agree with the author that neither the reasons stated nor any sense of delicacy in speaking of one's self can justify the withholding of an officer's history. Consenting to enter upon the rolls of the Army, he becomes, to the extent of his public acts, to say the least, public property; and it is by no means inconsistent with a fair modesty or self-respect, to submit, under his own hand, such synopsis of dates and facts as may enable an author to present him justly and correctly. If he have heretofore gained credit, and received honorable notice, in orders or otherwise, or if he honestly believe himself entitled to credit, let him put it down, and leave the whole to a just comparison. A history of the more fortunate class of officers—those who have had the advantage of military training and education before becoming responsible in the field for the fulfilment of duties—is, it is well understood, about to be put before the world. Years of patient application have

been passed by the author, General Cullum, in collating and arranging the data necessary to the end in view. Officers appointed direct from civil life, or from the ranks, have served side by side with their West Point brethren, and stand equally identified with the history and progress of our arms. Why should the record stop short with the story of the graduates? Why, too, from any ordinary cause, should an officer fail to transmit in the promptest manner the points and facts of his military history, be the same of greater or less importance in his own eyes, and thus contribute his mite to the honor and credit of the service at large? Surely it were quite enough in favor of any officer that an author should volunteer him just and fair mention in a bound volume, to be treasured and preserved, without its being expected such author should travel out of his way, or become a suppliant for the necessary data. Least of all should we lie in wait to pick up the chance remark or expression of a man engaged in a perplexing task, with the view to coddle up reasons for delaying him, or keeping back the information desired. As a citizen appointment myself, I feel gratified and grateful that any one has the patience and goodwill to try to follow out and record, as a speciality, the service of civilians in the Army. In the instance in hand, the industry and competency of the officer proffering this advantage are beyond doubt or question. Springing, too, from good stock—from a soldier who won his way up, by courage and conduct, from the lower grades—his sympathies cannot but be in a direction to do justice to all. Let us trust, then, that there is to be no more of embarrassment or delay from causes stated, or any others akin to them, but that officers will unite in speeding the work in hand, and fail not in the earliest and fullest response to the requests of the author.

CIVIL APPOINTMENT.

COURTS-MARTIAL AND PUNISHMENTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The Secretary of War *ad interim*, recommends a change in the system of Courts-martial and punishments for military offences. The following suggestions are made with the hope that they may receive some consideration from those having the power to effect a change so much needed to promote the discipline and efficiency of the service:

1. All offences now triable by a garrison or regimental Court-martial, to be tried before a field officer of the regiment or commanding officer of a post.

2. The jurisdiction of garrison and regimental Courts-martial to be enlarged, so as to enable them to try enlisted men for all offences, and, when consisting of five officers, commissioned officers.

3. General Courts-martial to be convened by district as well as by department commanders in time of peace, and in time of war by brigade as well as by division commanders.

4. Confinement in the guard house is a punishment to be abolished, except at certain designated posts, one in each department, to which all convicts shall be sent, and where prison discipline shall be rigidly enforced.

5. Deserters to be confined in the penitentiary of the District of Columbia; and in aggravated cases, to be punished also by stripes and lashes; in time of war or active hostilities in any part of the country, the punishment to be death.

REFORM.

M. O., L. L., U. S.

At a stated meeting of Commandery No. 1, of the State of Pennsylvania, M. O., L. L., U. S., held at the quarters, No. 1,103 Walnut street, Philadelphia, on Wednesday evening, December 4th, at half-past seven o'clock, the following-named gentlemen, candidates for membership, were balloted for, and duly elected companions of this Order:

For the First Class: Commodore Charles Steedman, U. S. Navy; Commander James S. Thornton, U. S. Navy; Paymaster Augustus H. Gilman, U. S. Navy; Chief Engineer Theodore Zeller, U. S. Navy; Chief Engineer Francis C. Dade, U. S. Navy; Chief Engineer William Roberts, U. S. Navy; First Assistant Engineer William H. King, U. S. Navy; Acting Volunteer Lieutenant George W. Rodgers, U. S. Navy; Acting Assistant Surgeon Lorenzo Traver, M. D., U. S. Navy; Acting Master John McGowan, Jr., U. S. Navy; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Robert P. McKibbin, U. S. Army, captain Fourth Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Wessels, late One Hundred and Sixth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry; Captain George A. Lemaistre, late Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry; Captain William S. Underwood, late Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry; First Lieutenant J. P. Heister Jones, late Second Pennsylvania Cavalry; Brevet Major-General Richard Coulter, U. S. Volunteers; Brevet Brigadier-General George Zinn, U. S. Volunteers; First Lieutenant David I. Scott, Tenth U. S. Infantry; Paymaster George Plunkett, U. S. Navy.

For the Third Class: John H. Shoenberger, Esq.

By direction of the President of the United States, a Court of Inquiry was ordered to convene at Mobile, Ala., on the 28th day of November, 1867, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate the facts and circumstances connected with charges of fraud and mal-administration made against Brevet Major J. C. Grierson, captain and assistant quartermaster U. S. Volunteers, in connection with the hiring of the steamer *Ocean Wave*, and affairs of the Quartermaster's Department at Mobile, Alabama, and to express its opinion upon the facts which may be developed. Detail for the court: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. McK. Hudson, major fifteenth U. S. Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. Sullivan, captain and commissary of subsistence U. S. Army; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. Reynolds, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant M. F. Gallagher, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, judge-advocate.

BATTERY A, Third U. S. Artillery, under command of Brevet Major John B. Shinn, has arrived at Fort Monroe.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS ISSUED FROM THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 9, 1867.

Tuesday, December 3d.

By direction of the President, Brevet Major E. Murphy, U. S. Army (retired), will report for duty to the commanding general, Department of the Potomac.

The services of Hospital Steward, Judson Riley, U. S. Army, being no longer required, he will be discharged the service of the United States, upon the receipt of this order, at the place where he may be serving. This order to take effect December 1, 1867.

The permission to delay reporting to his regiment until December 1, 1867, granted Second Lieutenant John H. Filler, Twenty-ninth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 376, July 25, 1867, from this office, is hereby extended ten days.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Orders No. 115, November 18, 1867, from Headquarters Eighth U. S. Infantry, transferring Second Lieutenant R. S. Fletcher, of that regiment, to Company F, is hereby confirmed.

Brevet Major-General R. C. Buchanan, colonel First U. S. Infantry, will proceed without delay to New Orleans, La., and report to Major-General Hancock, commanding Fifth Military District, for assignment as commander of the Sub-District of Louisiana, and as assistant commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands. On assuming the command as above ordered, the President directs that General Buchanan be assigned to duty according to his brevet rank of brigadier-general.

Paragraph 2, Special Orders No. 191, November 20, 1867, from Headquarters Fifth Military District, granting Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. Wolverton, assistant surgeon, leave of absence for sixty days, is hereby revoked, and twenty days' leave of absence granted him in lieu thereof.

The leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability granted Brevet Brigadier-General H. S. Burton, colonel Fifth U. S. Artillery, in Special Orders No. 166, September 30, 1867, from Headquarters Second Military District, is hereby extended twenty days on surgeon's certificate of disability.

The following-named superintendents of national cemeteries (lately appointed) will, upon the receipt of this order, proceed to the stations set opposite their respective names, and assume charge of the national cemeteries at those places:

Ewald Schneider, Staunton, Va.; Hugh M. Fogg, Cold Harbor, Va.; Marvin Burroughs, Newbern, N. C.; Charles H. Proudfoot, Salisbury, N. C.; James G. Hughes, Florence, S. C.; Joseph Barrigan, Corinth, Miss.; Alexander Jameison, New Orleans, La.; Charles Gohe, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Henry Williams, Nashville, Tenn.; Peter Jecko, Shiloh, Tenn. Sylvanus A. Belman, Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Wednesday, December 4th.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel William Welsh, captain Fortieth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 208, November 16, 1867, from Headquarters Second Military District, is hereby extended ten days.

Captain Edwin Pollock, Ninth U. S. Infantry, is hereby relieved from recruiting service. He will close his rendezvous, turn over the recruiting property and funds for which he is responsible to the Superintendent General Recruiting Service, or the officer designated by him to receive them, and proceed, without delay, to join his regiment in the Military Division of the Pacific.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. N. Dennison, captain, Second U. S. Artillery, under orders to join his regiment in the Department of California, *via* Isthmus of Panama, is hereby authorized to draw the usual advance transportation from New York City to San Francisco, California.

A board of officers to consist of Brevet Major-General Silas Casey, colonel Fourth U. S. Infantry; Brevet Major-General Rufus Ingalls, colonel and assistant quartermaster general; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. Volum, surgeon, will convene in New York City on the 11th day of December, 1867, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the purpose of examining and reporting upon an iron bedstead invented by Brevet Brigadier-General H. D. Wallen, lieutenant-colonel Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, for Army use. The junior member of the board will record the proceedings.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Wagner, Twenty-ninth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 168, November 8, 1867, from Headquarters First Military District, is hereby extended ten days.

Leave of absence for twenty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is hereby granted Brevet Major C. F. Trowbridge, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry.

Leave of absence for twenty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to leave the limits of his department, is hereby granted Captain W. McC. Netterville, Twenty-first U. S. Infantry.

Second Lieutenant Frank M. Gibson, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, will report in person, without delay, to the commanding officer at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, for duty at that post.

The resignation of Captain Leroy L. Jones, Second U. S. Artillery, has been accepted by the President, to take effect February 1, 1868, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the pay department that he is not indebted to the United States.

Permission to delay starting to join his regiment until the expiration of the permission to delay granted him in special orders No. 501, November 21, 1867, from this office, as second lieutenant of the Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Albert J. Garrett, First U. S. Cavalry, and at the expiration of this time he will join it by way of the Isthmus of Panama.

Second Lieutenant Edward B. Rheem, Thirty-second U. S. Infantry, will, on the expiration of the permission to delay starting to join his regiment granted him in special orders No. 500, November 20, 1867, from this office, proceed to join his regiment in the department of

California, *via* the Isthmus of Panama. The usual advance transportation will be paid him.

So much of special orders No. 510, December 3, 1867, from this office, as directed Brevet Major-General R. C. Buchanan, colonel First U. S. Infantry, to proceed without delay to New Orleans, Louisiana, and report to Major-General Hancock, commanding Fifth Military District, for assignment as commander of the sub-district of Louisiana, and as assistant-commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, etc., is hereby suspended for a reasonable time, to enable him to make his report on the Iowa claims.

Thursday, December 5th.

Permission to proceed to his home, Sterling, Illinois, and await the action of the retiring board, now in session in New York City, in his case, is hereby granted Brevet Colonel W. M. Kilgour, captain Forty-first U. S. Infantry.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Thomas Dunn, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Colonel William McE. Dye, major Fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 215, November 6, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended ten days.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the warrant as superintendent of the national cemetery at Culpeper Court-house, Virginia, given to Rittenhouse P. Fink, is hereby revoked on account of improper conduct.

Hospital Steward Louis Planitz, U. S. Army, now on duty at Fort Wadsworth, New York Harbor, will report in person, without delay, to the commanding officer at David's Island, New York Harbor, for duty at that post. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the stoppage against the pay of Captain Charles C. Hood, Forty-first U. S. Infantry, directed by paragraph 11, Special Orders No. 333, July 1, 1867, from this office, will be removed, he having rendered this to office his recruiting accounts for January, 1867.

Hospital Steward William C. Kwitzman, Twentieth U. S. Infantry, having been appointed hospital steward by the Secretary of War, will report in person, without delay, to the medical director Fifth Military District for assignment to duty.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Regimental Orders No. 84, November 20, 1867, from Headquarters Seventh U. S. Cavalry, assigning Second Lieutenant J. F. Weston, of that regiment, to Company K, is hereby confirmed.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 137, November 20, 1867, from Headquarters Seventh U. S. Cavalry, as transferred Second Lieutenant J. F. Weston, of that regiment, from Company K to Company C, is hereby confirmed.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Carlton, captain Fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 235, November 18, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended twenty days.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Regimental Order No. 86, November 20, 1867, from Headquarters Seventh U. S. Cavalry, assigning Second Lieutenant Donald McIntosh, of that regiment, to Company E, is hereby confirmed.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 137, November 20, 1867, from Headquarters Seventh U. S. Cavalry, as transferred Second Lieutenant Donald McIntosh, of that regiment, from Company E to Company M, is hereby confirmed.

By direction of the President, Brevet Brigadier-General J. R. Smith, major U. S. Army (retired), is hereby relieved from duty as chief commissary of musters, Department of the Lakes, and will proceed to his home.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 87, November 8, 1867, from Headquarters, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry, as assigned Second Lieutenant Henry F. Leggett, of that regiment, to Company A, is hereby confirmed.

Permission to delay fifteen days *en route* to his regiment in the Department of California is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Stephen B. Thoburn, Twenty-third U. S. Infantry. The usual advance transportation from New York City to San Francisco, *via* Isthmus of Panama, by which route he will proceed to join his regiment, will be paid him.

So much of Special Orders No. 487, November 5, 1867, from this office, as directed the Superintendent General Recruiting Service to forward two hundred and seventy-four recruits to the Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, is, in accordance with the provisions of General Orders No. 101, Adjutant General's office, November 26, 1867, amended to direct that one hundred and forty recruits only be forwarded to that regiment.

So much of Special Orders No. 501, November 21, from this office, as directed the Superintendent General Recruiting Service to forward one hundred and one recruits, including five drummers and three fifers, to the Twenty-first U. S. Infantry, is, in accordance with the provisions of General Orders No. 101, Adjutant General's office, November 26, 1867, hereby revoked, except as to the field musicians, who will be forwarded when disposable at depot.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of General Orders No. 17, March 8, 1867, from Headquarters, Forty-fourth U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), as transferred Second Lieutenant W. P. Rogers, of that regiment to Company H, is hereby confirmed.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of General Orders No. 109, October 29, 1867, from Headquarters, Forty-fourth U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), as transferred Second Lieutenant W. P. Rogers, of that regiment, to Company F, is hereby confirmed.

Friday, December 6th.

Leave of absence is hereby granted the following-named officers:

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis Johnson, captain Forty-first U. S. Infantry, for fifteen days, to date from the 16th instant.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Kilburn Knox, captain

Twenty-second U. S. Infantry, for fifty days, with permission to apply for an extension of fifty days.

Captain J. W. Cuyler, Corps of Engineers, for fifty days.

Second Lieutenant Frank Soule, Jr., Ordnance Department, will report in person, without delay, to the superintendent of the railway academy, West Point, New York, for assignment to duty.

The telegraphic order of the 30th ultimo, from this office, granting Brevet Colonel C. C. Gilbert, major Twenty-eighth U. S. Infantry, forty days extension of the leave of absence granted him in special orders No. 174, November 5, 1867, from Headquarters Fourth Military District, is hereby confirmed.

The telegraphic order of the 4th instant, from this office, authorizing Second Lieutenant Charles A. Johnson, Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, to draw the usual advance transportation from New York City to San Francisco, *via* the Isthmus of Panama, is hereby confirmed.

Upon the receipt of this order, Augustus Barry will proceed to Culpeper Court House, Virginia, and assume charge of the national cemetery at that place, of which he has been appointed superintendent.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Regimental Order No. 91, November 26, 1867, from Headquarters Seventh U. S. Cavalry, assigning Captain Lewis M. Dayton, of that regiment, to Company M, is hereby confirmed.

The permission to delay joining his regiment granted Second Lieutenant W. W. Tyler, Ninth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 491, November 9, 1867, from this office, is hereby extended thirty days.

The permission to delay joining his regiment granted Second Lieutenant H. H. Pierce, First U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 479, October 26, 1867, from this office, is hereby extended thirty days.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel James Powell, captain Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, will at once repair to New York City, and report for examination to Brevet Major-General Cooke, president of the retiring board, convened by Special Orders No. 449, September 21, 1867 from this office.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major A. H. A. draws, captain Twenty-eighth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 168, October 29, 1867, from Headquarters Fourth Military District, is hereby extended forty days.

Leave of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Charles G. Fisher, Fourth U. S. Artillery.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant William H. Hugo, Twenty-fifth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 173, November 11, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the Cumberland, is hereby extended ten days.

Leave of absence for four months, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is hereby granted Brevet Major Lyman M. Kellogg, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, with permission to go beyond the limits of his department.

As soon as existing orders for forwarding recruits to organizations have been complied with, the Superintendent General Recruiting Service will prepare a detachment of forty-two recruits from those that are, or may from time to time become disposable at the depots, and forward it under proper charge to Richmond, Virginia, for assignment to the Eleventh U. S. Infantry. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Leave of absence until May 1st, 1868, is hereby granted Brevet Major A. B. Cain, captain Fourth U. S. Infantry, to take effect upon the expiration of the permission to delay joining his regiment, granted him in Special Orders No. 462, October 7th, 1867, from this office.

Saturday, December 7th.

Leave of absence is hereby granted the following named officers:

Second Lieutenant J. E. Sawyer, Fifth U. S. Artillery, for thirty days; Second Lieutenant Louis Schonborn, Third U. S. Infantry, for thirty days.

A board of examination having found Brevet Captain N. Redmond, first lieutenant, Fourth U. S. Artillery, "incapacitated for active service, and that said incapacity is the result of wounds and injuries received in the line of his duty," the President directs that his name be placed upon the list of retired officers of that class in which the disability results from long and faithful service, or some injury incident thereto, in accordance with the provisions of section 17 of the act approved August 3, 1861.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Second Lieutenant George F. Mason, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, is hereby authorized to draw commutation of fuel and quarters while on duty as a member of the General Court-martial convened at Salisbury, N. C., by Special Orders No. 191, October 28, 1867, from Headquarters Second Military District, provided he is not furnished in kind.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Captain J. J. S. Hassler, first lieutenant Fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 215, November 6, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended until April 1, 1868.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant John K. Waring, Second U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 180, November 22, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the Cumberland, is hereby extended ten days.

COMPANY C, Thirty-seventh Infantry, U. S. Army, is now stationed at Camp Plummer, New Mexico, which post is one hundred miles northwest of Santa Fe. The officers at the post are: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Moale, Captain Thirty-seventh Infantry, commanding company and post; First Lieutenant D. Mortimer Lee, Thirty-seventh Infantry, post adjutant; Assistant Surgeon Charles Siyer, U. S. Army, post surgeon.

THE Headquarters Twenty-third Infantry have been removed from Fort Boise, Idaho Territory, to Camp Warner, Oregon. Post office address *via* Susanville, Cal.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

DECEMBER 2.—Captain David McDougal, to command the steamer *Powhatan*.

DECEMBER 4.—Lieutenant-Commander Thomas H. Eastman, to command the steamer *Penobscot*.

Lieutenant-Commander Frederick J. Naile, Assistant Paymaster Charles E. Boggs, First Assistant Engineer George W. Melville, Second Assistant Engineer H. S. Ross and Albert C. Engard, to duty on board the *Penobscot*.

DECEMBER 5.—Assistant Paymaster J. Q. Barton, to duty on board the *Saco*.

Gunner F. A. Graham, to duty on board the *Pensacola*.

DECEMBER 6.—Boatswain Charles Miller, Sr., to duty as foreman of laborers at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

Boatswain Charles Miller, Jr., to duty at the Naval Academy.

DETACHED.

NOVEMBER 30.—Lieutenant-Commanders Frederick Rogers, George M. Bache, and Midshipman Rufus Waterman, from duty on board the late steamer *Sacramento*, and placed on waiting orders.

DECEMBER 2.—Commodore Theodore P. Greene, from command of the steamer *Powhatan*, on the reporting of his relief.

Lieutenant-Commander E. C. Merriman, from duty on board the *Tuscarora*, and ordered to duty at the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

Third Assistant Engineer Robert D. Taylor, from duty on board the late steamer *Sacramento*, and placed on waiting orders.

DECEMBER 3.—Lieutenant George W. McClure, from duty in the South Atlantic Squadron, and ordered to return north.

DECEMBER 5.—Assistant Paymaster John MacMahon, from duty on board the *Saco*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Gunner Cornelius Dugan, from duty on board the *Pensacola*.

DECEMBER 6.—Assistant Surgeon Lewis S. Polcher, from duty at the Naval Hospital, New York, and ordered to the *Penobscot*.

Boatswain James C. Walton, from special duty at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, as foreman of laborers, and placed on waiting orders.

Boatswain A. M. Pomeroy, from duty at the Naval Academy, and placed on waiting orders.

PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST.

DECEMBER 1.—Commodore Cleoro Price.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

DECEMBER 4.—Master James B. Weaver.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

NOVEMBER 30.—Mates C. H. Prichard, L. W. Poole and Lewis H. Hubbard, to duty on board the Coast Survey schooner *Marcy*.

DECEMBER 2.—Acting Second Assistant Engineer A. M. Clements, to duty at the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

DECEMBER 4.—Acting Master Thomas Nelson, Acting Ensign H. F. Dorton, Mates Thomas Nickerson, William H. Hall, G. H. Robinson, C. H. Felch, Acting Third Assistant Engineers William McFaul and Charles J. Morgan, to duty on board the *Penobscot*.

Acting Master Thomas M. Gardner, to duty on board the receiving ship at Philadelphia.

DECEMBER 5.—Acting Assistant Surgeon T. W. Bennett, to duty on board the *Saco*.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 3.—Mate B. G. Studley, from duty on board the *Newbern*, and granted leave for discharge.

Mate Frederick C. Bailey, from duty at the Naval Academy, and ordered to the *Newbern*.

DECEMBER 4.—Acting Master Henry C. Macy, from duty on board the *Tuscarora*, and ordered to the receiving ship at Philadelphia.

Acting Master James Ogilvie, from duty on board the *Tuscarora*, and ordered to the *Vermont*.

Acting Master William W. Kennison, from duty on board the receiving ship at Philadelphia, and ordered to the *Penobscot*.

Acting Ensign Frederick W. Mintzer, from duty on board the *Vermont*, and ordered to the *Penobscot*.

GRANTED LEAVE FOR DISCHARGE.

DECEMBER 4.—Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Sylvanus Nickerson.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

DECEMBER 5.—Acting Assistant Surgeon E. A. Dulin, of the *Saco*.

GRANTED LEAVE FOR DISCHARGE.

The following Volunteer naval officers have been granted honorable discharge since last report:

Acting Master F. A. O'Connor, from December 4th.

Acting Ensigns, A. W. Snow, from December 6th, and Andrew Jackson, from December 6th.

Mates, H. B. Scott, from December 2d, and J. E. Johnston, from December 4th.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, for the week ending December 7, 1867:

Alexander Greer, chief engineer, September 10th, U. S. steamer *Tuscarora*.

William Murphy, seaman, November 18th, Naval Hospital, Washington, D. C.

John Williams, seaman, December 2d, Naval Asylum, Philadelphia.

John D. Sloat, rear-admiral, November 28th, Staten Island, N. Y.

MARINE CORPS.

CHANGES, ETC., DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1867.

Captain James Wiley.—On the 4th October ordered to proceed to New York for the purpose of opening an assistant quartermaster's office there.

Captain Frank Munroe.—On the 11th inst. ordered to proceed to Washington, D. C., and report for duty, on being relieved from the U. S. steamer *Powhatan*.

Captain and Brevet Major William H. Barker.—On the 11th inst. ordered to be detached from the Mound City station, and will take passage on the steamer of the 1st prox. from New York to Panama; upon arriving at Panama, report for duty on board the U. S. steamer *Powhatan*, and senior officer of Marines of the South Pacific Squadron. Detached from Mound City, Ill., 15th inst.

First Lieutenant Henry A. Bartlett.—Joined at Brooklyn, N. Y., 20th inst. from the late steamer *Sacramento*. Absent with leave from 20th inst.

First Lieutenant and Brevet Captain H. B. Loury.—Detached from receiving ship *Vermont* 4th inst., and reported at Philadelphia, Pa., for duty 5th inst.

First Lieutenant and Brevet Captain P. C. Pope.—Detached from Marine Barracks, Boston, Mass., and ordered to take passage in the steamer of the 22d inst. from New York for St. Thomas, West Indies; upon arrival, to report for duty on board the U. S. steamer *Monongahela*.

First Lieutenant R. S. Collum.—Detached from the Navy-yard, Washington, D. C., 17th inst., and ordered to proceed to Mound City, Ill., and report as the officer detailed to command the Marines at that post. Joined 27th inst.

First Lieutenant William B. Reney.—Detached from Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C., 4th inst., and ordered to the receiving ship *New Hampshire*, at Norfolk, Va., as commanding marine officer. Joined the 8th inst.

First Lieutenant Lyman P. French.—Absent with leave from 1st to the 30th inst. from Portsmouth, N. H.

First Lieutenant William S. Muse.—On leave of absence from 12th inst. from headquarters.

Second Lieutenant A. B. Young.—On the 21st inst. ordered to be detached from the U. S. steamer *Tuscarora*, North Pacific Squadron, and will proceed to Washington, D. C., and report for duty at that station.

Second Lieutenant James B. Breen.—Absent with leave from Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Second Lieutenant E. P. Banning.—Detached from Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, N. Y., 12th inst., and ordered to take passage in the steamer of the 1st prox. from New York to Panama; upon arriving at Panama, to report for duty on board the U. S. steamer *Powhatan*.

ARMY GAZETTE.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following changes of stations in the Army have been reported since last report:

INFANTRY.

Company F, Second Infantry, from Franklin, Ky., to Louisville, Ky., November 15th.

Company B, Seventh Infantry, from St. Augustine, Fla., to Fort Clinch, Fla., November 25th.

Company D, Seventh Infantry, from Fort Clinch, Fla., to St. Augustine, Fla., November 25th.

Companies G, I and K, Eleventh Infantry, from Richmond, Va., to Lynchburg, Va., November 26th.

Company A, Twelfth Infantry, from Russell Barracks to Sedgewick Barracks, D. C., November 22d.

Company F, Twelfth Infantry, from Sedgewick Barracks to Russell Barracks, D. C., November 22d.

Company I, Tenth Infantry, from Burrowville, Ark., to Dover, Ark., November 13th.

Company D, Twentieth Infantry, from Jefferson, Tex., to Shreveport, La., November 18th.

Company D, Twenty-first Infantry, from Farmville, Va., to Petersburg, Va., November 26th.

Company E, Twenty-first Infantry, from Fort Monroe, Va., to Petersburg, Va., November 26th.

Company I, Twenty-first Infantry, from Petersburg, Va., to Farmville, Va., November 26th.

H-additional, Twenty-third Infantry, from Fort Boise, I. T., to Cal. Warner, Ore., October 26th.

Company K, Twenty-fourth Infantry, from Winchester, Miss., to Vicksburg, Miss., November 20th.

Company A, Twenty-eighth Infantry, from Batesville, Ark., to Little Rock, Ark., November 9th.

Company H, Twenty-eighth Infantry, from Little Rock, Ark., to Camden, Ark., November 15th.

Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, from Lincoln Barracks, Washington, D. C., to Battery Rodgers, Va., November 26th.

Company B, Thirty-sixth Infantry, from Fort Sanders, D. T., to Fort Bridger, U. T., November 8th.

Company I, Thirty-seventh Infantry, ordered to Fort Stanton, New Mexico, November 7th.

Company D, Thirty-eighth Infantry, from Fort Union, New Mexico, to Fort McRae, New Mexico, November 14th.

Company D, Forty-first Infantry, from Ringgold Barracks, Tex., to Brownsville, Tex., November 3d.

ARTILLERY.

Company E, Fourth Artillery, ordered from Fort Foote, Md., to Fort McHenry, Md., November 21st.

Company I, Fourth Artillery, ordered from Fort McHenry, Md., to Fort Foote, Md., November 21st.

Company E, Third Artillery, ordered from Charleston, S. C., to Columbia, S. C., November 22d.

CAVALRY.

Headquarters Second Cavalry, ordered from Fort Laramie, D. T., to Fort McPherson, Neb., November 23d.

Company E, Fourth Cavalry, ordered from Opelousas, La., to Monroe, La., November 18th.

Company I, Fourth Cavalry, ordered from Grand Ecore, La., to Jefferson, Tex.

Companies F, G, H and K, Tenth Cavalry, ordered from different points to Fort Riley, Kas., November 22d.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

ELECTION OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.—In many of the companies of the National Guard it is customary, when a non-commissioned officer resigns, to elect a person to fill the place he held instead of adding another to the grade in which the vacancy has occurred. By this we mean to say that when a third sergeant or a fourth corporal resigns an election should be held to fill the vacancy in the grade of sergeant or corporal, as the case may be, the successful candidate being rated as fifth sergeant or eighth corporal, according to the grade in which the vacancy has occurred. It does not, however, follow that the second sergeant becomes the first sergeant of the company, if a vacancy should occur in that position, because the first sergeancy is, so to speak, a third grade of company non-commissioned officers. The reasons why the first sergeancy should be an exception to this general rule are too evident to need to be repeated. The non-commissioned officers of a company in the National Guard are one first sergeant, four duty sergeants, and eight corporals in addition to which each company of the Regular Army is allowed a quartermaster-sergeant. Duty sergeants and corporals rank in their grade according to the dates of their warrants, and it would be as proper to elect the junior company commander of a regiment its senior captain, as to elect a private second sergeant or first corporal, because a vacancy has occurred by the death, resignation or other casualty of the person holding the aforesaid warrants. It must also be borne in mind that in filling in a warrant the first sergeant alone is entitled to have his particular rank mentioned, and that the other company warrants should read simply *sergeant* or *corporal*, without any numeral affixed. This numbering of sergeants is resorted to merely as a convenient method of designating them, and there can really be no vacancy in the second sergeancy of a company as long as it has any sergeant other than its orderly. It is highly un-military and even ridiculous to talk about electing a third sergeant or a second corporal. It is in such matters as these that the old training-day Militia system has not yet been wholly eradicated.

In this connection we cannot refrain from telling a good story which occurred when the troops first came to Washington in 1861. It appears that a man from Indiana had been appointed a sergeant in his company, but had very little idea of what his duties were, or, in fact, how a sergeant differed from any other member of the company. This sergeant, in walking on Pennsylvania avenue, met a friend, and after the customary salutations, the following conversation ensued: Friend—Ah, Jack, what are you? Jack—I've been made a sergeant, and a mighty nice position it is. I can tell you. Friend—I am glad to hear of your good luck. What do you have to do, and what is your command? Jack—I don't know much of my duties yet, and I don't exactly understand what my rank is, except that I rank a corporal all to thunder.

COMPANY B, THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.—The annual reception of Company B, Thirty-seventh regiment, took place on last Thursday evening, December 5th, at the regimental armory, Broadway and Thirty-fifth street, and was one of the most stylish affairs of the kind that "Gotham" has seen since the commencement of this season. The order of dancing was excellent, and delightful music was furnished by Dodworth's band. The whole affair was gotten up entirely regardless of expense, and the general arrangements were well carried out under the management of Captain William H. Cox, who commands the company. The armory was decorated very neatly, and, contrary to the usual custom, not too much. Even the guns in the racks added to the embellishment of the room, for their neat and clean appearance attracted the attention of everybody. Among the guests we noticed Brigadier-General Bendix and family, Brigadier-Generals Varian and Postley; Colonels Le Gal, Hawkins, and Carr; Lieutenant-Colonels Remmey, McAfee, Majors Wentworth, and Howe, and a host of others, among whom were quite a number of officers of the Regular Army. Brigadier-General Roome,

in the course of the evening, was called upon, and made quite a neat little speech. The reception was in all particulars the entire success which all desire and so few attain. The guests of the company seemed scarcely to appreciate the flight of the hours, so busy were they enjoying themselves; and "Auld lang syne," which announced the close of the entertainment, came much too soon for the dancers, albeit the clock told the hour at which many rise for the duties of the day. It is very evident that the misfortunes of the regiment have not dampened the spirits of the members.

FIFTH REGIMENT.—The grand opening ball of the several companies of the Fifth regiment took place on Monday evening, Dec. 9th, at the regimental armory, Nos. 156 and 160 Hester street. The affair was well gotten up, and the hall not being overcrowded, the guests enjoyed themselves right heartily. The appearance of the room showed the artistic taste of the decorator, Mr. George Kline, who had done his handsomest to please, and well merited the commendation he received on all sides. The floor was in charge of Quartermaster Ed. S. Brehm and Adjutant P. F. Smith, who marshalled the dancers in a most satisfactory manner. The general committee of arrangements was composed of Captains L. G. T. Bruer, P. Kraeger, Reiss, Meyer Kloeber, Ertz, Eller, Hamann, Keim, and Laussen. Among those present were Lieutenant-Colonel Hildebrandt, of the Fifth; Brevet Major Sauer, of the Third Cavalry; and Quartermaster Rocky, of the Eleventh regiment. As it is not expected that there will be any regimental ball of the Fifth this Winter, the present entertainment was intended as the formal opening of the ball season, and it was a worthy prelude to the jolly times that are to follow. Anybody who has been to one of the balls of this regiment knows how pleasant they are, and the one on Monday was no exception to the general rule. A good many will be disappointed to hear that there is to be no regimental ball this year, for most of those who attended the ball of the Fifth last year at the Germania Assembly Rooms, look back upon it as the most enjoyable affair of that season. As a matter of course everybody enjoyed themselves on Monday, and few of the dancers left before morning.

TROOP D, THIRD REGIMENT.—The nineteenth annual ball of Troop D, Third regiment Cavalry, Captain Henry Wisser commanding, at Central Hall, No. 37 Bowers, on December 9th, was one of the most hearty reunions this troop has had the good luck to celebrate. The friends of the company turned out in overwhelming force, giving the committee more work to perform than they had looked forward to, still they acquitted themselves with great credit. The names of the committee were Lieutenants Bocher and Schmitt, Sergeant Closius, Corporal Stoll, and Privates Baudendistel and Schmitt. Among those present were Lieutenant-Colonel Gies, of the Third, and Adjutant Smith, of the Fifth Infantry, who made a fine speech at supper, as also did Captain Wisser. Mr. Weigel also made a speech in German, which we did not understand; but from the way it was received, it must have been a good one. The ball was a pleasant affair all through, and did not break up until dawn.

EXAMINATION OF BREACH-LOADERS.—The board of officers appointed by Governor Fenton to examine and report upon a system of breech-loaders for adoption by the State of New York, has nearly completed its investigations, and will shortly make a report. The last public meeting of the board, which is composed of Brigadier-General George S. Palmer, Brigadier-General Wm. G. Ward, and Colonel Silas M. Burt, and George D. Baker, was held at the State Arsenal on Tuesday, the 10th inst. The investigations of this board have been very complete and thorough, and its proceedings have attracted much attention among officers sent from foreign countries to examine into our improvements in small arms. The meeting on Tuesday was for the purpose of examining cartridges, the testing of guns having been concluded.

A trial of the Gomez cartridge was made, which is said to derive its explosive force from a new gunpowder which it is claimed makes less noise than other powder, and does not cause any flash at the muzzle of the gun. Cartridges of this pattern are made of paper, wrapped around with copper wire. The ball is kept in its place by means of a pin about an inch and a half long, which is set in its base and runs back in the powder. The wrapping of the cartridge is to keep this pin stationary in the middle. There is a large amount of residue from one of these cartridges, consisting of paper and wire, all of which, however, is blown out of the gun. These cartridges were used in a needle gun and a Sharp's carbine, the former being fired from a rest and the latter from the shoulder. The needle gun did not work very smoothly, and the shooting with the carbine was very wild. Mr. Cochrane also fired a few shots from a new gun of his, and Colonel Borden's gun was tested with filled cartridges to ascertain the strength of his locking device, with satisfactory results.

At the conclusion of the previous tests, the wall of the arsenal in rear of the target was found to be badly cut up, and accordingly General Palmer has had it renovated and the entire walls of the large drill room whitewashed. The firing with the Gomez cartridge knocked off the whitewash in some places, but not enough to seriously mar the improved appearance of the room.

If the report of the board is acted upon on its receipt, we shall ere long be able to inform our readers as to the arm with which the New York National Guard are to be armed.

BALLS TO COME OFF.—The Fifth regiment Drum corps, C. Berchet, drum-major, intend giving their seventh annual ball on New Year's night, January 1, 1868, at the regimental armory, No. 156 and 160 Hester street, when they expect all their friends to be present and participate in the festivities of the occasion.

Company G, Fifth regiment, expect to have a ball at the regimental armory, No. 156 and 160 Hester street, on next Wednesday evening, December 18, 1867.

Company K, Fifth regiment, expect to have their ball on next Thursday evening, December 19, 1867, at the New York Casino, No. 51 East Houston street, corner of Mott.

Company F, Fifth regiment, L. G. Theodore Bruer commanding, formerly "Jefferson Grenadiers," hold their thirty-first annual ball at Paul Falk's New York Casino, corner of Houston and Mott streets, on Thursday evening, December 26, 1867. All their friends are invited to attend.

COMPANY D, FIFTH REGIMENT.—At an election held in Company D, Fifth regiment, Captain Hamann, commanding company, presiding, Second Lieutenant G. E. Wellenkamp was elected second lieutenant, vice August Michael; Sergeant C. Lamb was elected second lieutenant; Corporal Miller was elected sergeant, and Private G. Scheiber corporal.

ELEVENTH REGIMENT.—An election will be held at the armory of this regiment, on Friday evening, the 13th inst., to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Colonel Joachim Maidhof. The Eleventh is at present under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Lux, who is the most prominent candidate for promotion. Colonel Lux has been a member of the National Guard over twenty-

five years, joining the present company D of the Fifth regiment when it was a flank company of the Two Hundred and Sixty-fourth ununiformed Militia, organized under the law prior to 1846. When first sergeant of Company D of the Fifth regiment, Colonel Lux was elected a captain in the Eleventh, with which regiment he has since been connected. If long and faithful service is a sufficient claim for promotion, Lieutenant-Colonel Lux is certainly entitled to be made Colonel of the Eleventh.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.—The first of a series of promenade concerts by the band of this regiment took place at the Portland avenue arsenal, Brooklyn, on Saturday evening, the 7th inst. The concerts of this regiment are intended to promote sociability and good feeling among its members, and there is therefore no unnecessary formality about them. The concert on last Saturday was under the direction of Grafulla in person, and was a very fine one, the attendance being large for the first night. The second part of the programme comprised dances, which were generally joined in by those present. The management of these concerts is in the hands of a committee consisting of Captains Heath and Baldwin, and Lieutenants Powell, Wheeler and Voute, who thoroughly understand their duties. In addition to the officers of the regiment, quite a number of the military men of the Second division were present, among whom were Colonel Coles, of the Fifty-second; Colonel Fowler, of the Fourteenth, and Captain Van Ingep, of the Twenty-third. The next concert will take place on the 4th of next January, when all who desire to have a fine time should be on hand.

SEVENTH REGIMENT BAND.—The second concert of the band of the Seventh regiment takes place at the armory on this (Saturday) evening, the 14th inst. The programme is an unusually good one, including as it does selections from the operas of "Romeo and Juliet," "Don Sebastian," "Ernani," and the "Grand Duchess." The orchestral part of the concert is also very attractive.

COMPANY B, FIFTH REGIMENT.—The thirty-first annual ball of Company B, of the Fifth regiment, Captain H. Kloeber commanding, will be held at the Germania Assembly Rooms on Tuesday evening, the 17th inst.

COMPANY C, SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—The anniversary dinner of this company will take place at the Sinclair House, Broadway, on the 13th proximo.

COMPANY C, NINTH REGIMENT.—An election was held at the armory of the Ninth regiment, on the evening of the 9th inst., to fill the vacancies in Company C. Major Charles S. Strong presided, and the voting resulted in the unanimous choice of the following officers: Private A. D. Davis to be captain; Sergeant Jacob W. Schmidt to be first lieutenant. After election the company adjourned to the Knickerbocker, on the invitation of the newly-elected officers, where a very jolly time was had. Speeches were made by Major Strong, Lieutenant Myers, Lieutenant Boyd, Lieutenant Schmidt, and Private Otto Schmidt. We have already alluded to the flourishing condition of this company, and it is expected that, under its new officers, it will make still further progress.

BATTERY H, FIRST ARTILLERY.—The nineteenth annual ball of Battery H, First regiment Artillery, Captain Karl Klein commanding, will be held at the Germania Assembly Rooms, on Thursday evening, the 9th inst.

COMPANY K, FIRST ARTILLERY.—At an election held in this company on the 5th inst., Corporal Nicholas Henry was elected second lieutenant, Private Louis Mettel was promoted to be sergeant, and Private Louis Koehler was made a corporal.

COMPANY H, FOURTEENTH (BROOKLYN) REGIMENT.—An election was held on Friday evening, December 6th, by this company, to fill the office of first lieutenant, vacant by the promotion of Major Charles Schurig. Second Lieutenant W. M. Campbell was unanimously chosen to fill the position.

TWELFTH REGIMENT.—Colonel John Ward has issued the following order: The officers and non-commissioned officers of this command will assemble in fatigue uniform, for instruction and drill, at the regimental armory, corner Fourth street and Broadway, on Friday evening, December 13th, at 8 o'clock.

Battalion drills are ordered in this command, as follows: Companies C, D, H, I and F will assemble in fatigue uniform, with leggings, at the State Arsenal, corner Seventh avenue and Thirty-fifth street, on Monday evening, December 16th. Companies B, K, A, G and E will assemble as above, on Thursday evening, December 19th. Line on each occasion will be formed at 8 o'clock p. m. First sergeants' call at 7:45 o'clock p. m. Field and staff will report to the colonel; non-commissioned staff and field music of the respective companies, to the adjutant, fifteen minutes before the time of formation. Any member appearing without leggings will be reported as absent, and not allowed to fall in.

In compliance with General Orders No. 23, from General Headquarters, S. N. Y., a new form of "Enlistment Papers" will be issued to commandants of companies, and every recruit in future will be required to sign the oath therein prescribed, in duplicate. Both copies, witnessed in writing by the respective captains, will be sent to these headquarters for examination, one of which will be forwarded to the adjutant general's office, and the other returned to the commandant of the company.

The board of examination, announced in General Orders No. 2, from these headquarters, will convene at the regimental armory, on Monday evening, January 6, 1868, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of examining into the qualifications of the non-commissioned officers of the several companies. For particulars as to qualifications of non-commissioned officers they are referred to article II, paragraphs 39, 40, and 42 of Upton's tactics. The board consists at present of Captains Byrne, Banta, Imlay, Teets, and McAfee.

A careful examination of the case of Third Sergeant John C. Moore, Company H, having disclosed extenuating circumstances, and it appearing that he intended no disobedience of orders, so much of General Orders No. 13, from these headquarters, as reduced Sergeant Moore to the ranks is hereby rescinded, and he is allowed honorably to resign his warrant.

COMPANY H, NINTH REGIMENT.—At an election of officers of Company H, Ninth regiment N. Y. S. N. G., held Friday evening, December 6, 1867, Major Strong presiding, the following officers were unanimously elected: Captain, John Raper, vice R. B. Young, resigned; first lieutenant, Milton Benjamin, vice Raper, promoted; second lieutenant, John F. Smith, vice Benjamin, promoted; first sergeant, Howard E. Sanford, vice Smith, promoted; second sergeant, Calvin E. Steckel, vice Roche, resigned; third sergeant, Geo. W. Paddon, vice Coffey, resigned; fourth sergeant, Ed. J. S. Gaffney, vice Sanford, promoted; corporals, Isaac C. Wilson, M. Clare, L. B. Carpenter.

The thanks of the company were tendered Major Strong for the able manner in which he presided at election of commissioned

officers, after which the men adjourned to Knickerbocker Cottage and partook of a sumptuous repast. A large number of toasts, speeches and songs were given, and the lawyer and druggist of the company were in their element.

BATTERY B, FIRST ARTILLERY.—The annual ball of this organization, Captain John Keim commanding, took place at the Germania Assembly Rooms on Thursday evening, the 5th inst. The ball was opened by a dress parade of the battery, followed by a review by Colonel Teller and staff in full uniform. Supper was prepared for the invited guests by Captain Keim and his officers, the captain making a very neat speech of welcome. Speeches were also made by Colonel Teller, Majors Frohlich and O'Grady, and Adjutant Wright. In the course of the evening the first sergeant of the battery was presented with a clock, and the secretary with a writing desk. The ball was a very successful affair.

COMPANY A, FIRST REGIMENT.—Company A, First regiment, Hawkins' Zouaves, held their third annual ball at Trener's Rooms, Sixth avenue, between Forty-first and Forty-second streets, on last Wednesday evening, December 11th. It will be remembered that Company A was the successful contestant in the competitive drill which took place not long since between it and another company of the First regiment. The ball was also a successful affair, and the evening passed away very pleasantly, the company being select and sociable. Captain Gould, who was present, has recently resigned the captaincy of this company, in expectation of becoming a permanent resident of the South. Captain Charles Child, who organized the company for the war, and Captain Webster, of Company C, were also present. Several Bridgeport citizens were present on special invitation, in return for the kindness they manifested toward Company A when on a visit to Bridgeport in honor of the celebration of the battle of Antietam. The music was excellent, and the affair altogether was without a flaw, thanks to the able and efficient committee.

REMINISCENCES OF CAMP AND GARRISON.

No. 3.

In our last we sketched a practical joke perpetrated on one of our officers. This time we will attempt to describe one of which the whole company were victims.

One of the wags of the company, now a substantial farmer in Orange County, quietly conveyed to his bunk one night (the top one of the tier of three, for you must know that the regiment, though not habitually lugubrious, lay in tiers every night) a small pitcher of water. At about midnight the quarters were aroused by a severe and violent retching as of some one in intense agony, and the sound seemed to emanate from about the neighborhood where our aforesaid friend roosted. These retchings were apparently accompanied by copious tribute of cascatory relief, which, as can be well imagined, was not calculated to be particularly agreeable to the under-tendants, especially to the gentleman nearest the floor. The violent efforts of the sick man seemed to be followed by equally abundant results. Now ensued a scene of confusion. Loud cries rang out on all sides, "Disgusting, filthy fellow!" "Oh, what an odious smell!" "We can't stand this!" "The air is suffocating!" Nearly half the company muttering maledictions upon the unfortunate cause of the disturbance, and, as usual, uncharitably attributing his illness to the result of too much raspberry, left their bunks, took their blankets and sought the open air, there to resume their broken sleep, free, as they supposed, from the foul and noxious atmosphere of the barrack room. The noise and disturbance reached the ears of the officer of the guard, who shortly appeared, accompanied by a file of men, to see what was the matter. He was directed to the bunk of the delinquent, whom he found, of course, in a profound sleep, and snoring at a fearful rate. After considerable effort he succeeded in arousing the apparently unconscious sleeper. "D—," said he, "are you ill?" "Never felt better in my life," was the ready response. "Then why this disturbance?" "What disturbance? I have not been disturbed." At last the truth appeared. Our friend had quietly indulged in a semblance of retching, accompanied by a simultaneous pouring of water on the floor from his pitcher, much to the chuckling delight of himself and those in the secret, as they witnessed the hurried exodus of those sensitive individuals, whose vivid imaginations perceived, and whose too delicate olfactory nerves could not endure, the horrid effects of this simulated nausea and intoxication.

The sequel, however, should not be omitted. A few nights afterward a member of the company, from what cause never has been clearly ascertained (it might have been Schillinger's raspberry), occupying a bunk adjoining the one just spoken of, was seized with a real, bona fide, Simon Pure case of uncontrollable nausea, with tangible consequences.

This time, though the quarters were aroused, no one seemed inclined to leave. The cry arose on all hands "Played out!" "Played out!" "You can't come that game twice!" "Oh no; that won't do!" and each rolled over and quietly composed himself to sleep, unconscious of foul air, and perfectly satisfied at not having been sold again. When the morning light revealed the astounding fact that somebody had been really ill and no mistake, then there were blank faces, followed by mutual cries of "Sold this time," and many a peal of hearty laughter.

BREVET BADGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I feel considerable delicacy in trespassing on your time and space because I am a young officer, and because you recently published a letter from my wife, in which I was made to appear rather prominently. Inasmuch, however, as "Inquirer" desires my opinion on a subject with regard to which it seems to me that even a junior officer should have decided views, I will, with your permission, answer his communication.

A ribbon or a decoration has always seemed to me a more suitable recognition of soldierly distinction than a brevet commission; but stars, garters, and ribbons are, I am aware, not republican institutions, and can not properly be given by our Government. It is a pleasing fact that many officers, who so distinguished themselves in the Rebellion as to earn brevets, have entered the ranks of the National Guard as privates, and it seems to me eminently proper that they should be allowed to wear a badge indicative of their services in the field. The order from Albany, prescribing the uniform for brevet rank, prevents any trouble which might result from the brevetting of privates, as enlisted men are in all services permitted to wear on their sleeves service chevrons and other distinctive marks. I can hardly believe that any right-minded officer will begrudge a veteran a brevet badge on his left sleeve, and I am persuaded that those who entertain the sentiments to which "Inquirer" alludes are as few and insignificant in influence as they de-

serve to be. I feel proud when I think how many men there are now in the ranks of my regiment who, after having served in the field as officers, have again shouldered a musket in the National Guard, to complete that portion of their seven years' State service which was lacking when they went forth to put to a practical test those lessons in the military art which had been learned in times of profound peace. I think a right-minded officer should feel proud that veterans, many of whom held in battle more responsible positions than his own, are willing to serve under him. The object of service in the National Guard seems to me to be to fit men to defend their country in time of need; and he who makes light of those who brought us successfully through the last war deserves a paper chapeau and a wooden sword rather than anything which will give him the outward semblance of the soldier he is not and never can hope to be. I deem it a higher honor to have served in the war of the Rebellion than to command the best regiment of the First division. It was not my privilege to imperil my life in the cause of the Government during the last war, but I trust I may never become so dead to all sense of duty as to detract one jot or tittle from the honor and credit due to our patriotic soldiers, while I shall not hesitate to unsparingly denounce any officer, high or low, who would deny him the paltry reward of a brevet badge after it had been fairly earned. The Northern man who did not in some way assist in putting down the Rebellion is unfit to live in the security and peace won by the valor of our patriot soldiers.

This may seem strong language from a subaltern, but I lost a brother in the war, and do not relish any attempt to slur the services of veterans.

CHARLES.

ARMORIES OF THE FIRST DIVISION.

The following is a list of the locations of the armories of the First division:

First Infantry, northwest corner of Fourth street and Broadway.
Second Infantry, corner Seventh street and Hall place.
Third Infantry, Fourth avenue, corner Twenty-fifth street.
Fourth Infantry, No. 596 Broadway.
Fifth Infantry, Nos. 156 and 160 Hester street.
Sixth Infantry, Centre Market.
Seventh Infantry, Tompkins Market.
Eighth Infantry, Centre Market.
Ninth Infantry, Twenty-sixth street, between Seventh and Eighth avenues.
Eleventh Infantry, corner Chrystie and Delancey streets.
Twelfth Infantry, southeast corner of Broadway and Fourth street.
Twenty-second Infantry, Fourteenth street, near Sixth avenue.
Thirty-seventh Infantry, Junction Broadway and Sixth avenue at Thirty-fifth street.
Fifty-fifth Infantry, No. 19 avenue A.
Sixty-ninth Infantry, Essex Market.
Seventy-first Infantry, Centre Market.
Seventy-ninth Infantry corner of Greene and Houston streets.
Eighty-fourth Infantry, southeast corner of Broadway and Fourth street.
Ninety-sixth Infantry, No. 291 Bowery.
First Artillery, Arsenal, corner of Elm and White streets.
First Cavalry, corner of Broadway and Forty-seventh street.
Third Cavalry, Nos. 37 and 39 Bowery.
Washington Gray squadron, Greene, corner of Houston street.
Cavalry Brigade Riding School, No. 13 West Thirteenth street.

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD, S. N. Y.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK, }
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Dec. 7, 1867. }
The following named officers have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the National Guard, S. N. Y., during the week ending December 7th:

THIRTY-FIFTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Orin G. Staples as quartermaster, with rank from November 26th, vice Munson, resigned.

The following resignations of officers in the National Guard, S. N. Y., have been accepted by the Commander-in-Chief during the week ending December 7th:

December 2d, Fifth regiment of Infantry, Chaplain Charles E. Edy.
December 2d, Thirty-fifth regiment of Infantry, Quartermaster Henry S. Munson.
December 4th, Eighty-ninth regiment of Infantry, Second Lieutenant E. A. Cruikshank.
December 4th, Eighty-ninth regiment of Infantry, Adjutant D. Alliger.
December 2d, Ninety-sixth regiment of Infantry, First Lieutenant Charles Bornemann.
December 2d, One Hundred and First regiment of Infantry, Major S. F. Tremain.
December 2d, One Hundred and First regiment of Infantry, Colonel Henry S. Armstrong.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

RECRUIT.—The adjutant-general of the Army has decided (1865) that "men cannot re-enlist before the expiration of their term of service; those re-enlisted within one month after discharge are entitled to the \$2 per month extra pay, but if they have served only three years, the \$2 will not be paid until they have served two years more—i. e. full five years." In other words, a soldier must serve five years continuously before he can receive the \$2 per month increase, as authorized by the act of August 4, 1864. This continuous service may be by an enlistment of three years, and then a re-enlistment one month after discharge.

READER.—On page 104 of the new register you will find the lineal rank of field officers and captains of artillery. It is not omitted as you seem to think.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the given dates. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead Letter Office, Washington.

DECEMBER 7TH.

ARMY.

Cooke, A. McD., Brevet Major-General.	Howell, W. T., Brevet Lieutenant Colonel and A. Q. M.
Friedle, John N., Lieutenant, late 54th N. Y. Vols.	Johnson, Cornelius, General.
Freedley, H. W., Captain 3d U. S. Infantry.	Kilgour, W. M., Captain 41st U. S. Infantry.
Gardner, A. B., Lieutenant 9th Infantry—2.	Moore, D. A., Lieut. V. B. C.
Gribben, J. H., Lieutenant, late 2d N. Y. Cavalry.	McKinney, J. A. M.
Griffin, A. C., late 2d N. Y. Art'y.	Noble, H. B., Captain.
Hewitt, Thos. W., Dr.	Robertson, T. W., Lieutenant.
	Sexton, Rufus, General.
	Spear, Percy B., Bvt. Lieutenant-Colonel.

DECEMBER 11TH.

ARMY.

Burnett, Ward B., General.	General, late 4th N. Y. Volun-teers.
Haine, George, late 40th regiment Mass. Vols.	McKine, Jas., Lieutenant, 6th U. S. Infantry.
Harriman, Ernst, Captain, late of U. S. H., 54th N. Y. Vols.	Patrick, M. R., Brig.-General.
Hazen, W. B., Bvt. Major-Gen.—2.	Pomeroy, Chas. O., Bvt. Lieut.-Colonel U. S. A.
MacGregor, Jno. D., Bvt. Brig.-	

EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE.

THE intelligence and judgment of the Imperial Commission in the matter of awards are clearly evinced in the following extract from the *Exposition Universelle Illustrated*, (publication authorized by the Imperial Commission):

"By their skill, universally recognized, Messrs. Wheeler & Wilson added to Howe's system of sewing machines important modifications, which have placed them in the front rank of manufacturers.

"The gold medal which has just been awarded them affirms, moreover, that none of the machines from the workshop of Howe, or of his principal tributaries, unite the qualities of simplicity and solidity of mechanism by which these machines are distinguished above all others.

"In their machine, remarkable for its form and elegance, they have substituted for the shuttle of Howe a small flat disc, which revolves vertically with unvarying swiftness. Hence this machine is the most simple of all, and, notwithstanding its great precision in operation, its price is not above that of the most imperfect systems.

"Elegance, perfection of work, simplicity, solidity of mechanism, and facility of management, such are the essential qualities united in the Wheeler & Wilson machine, constituting a superiority which the jury has, with unanimity, recognized and proclaimed.

"To these gentlemen the gold medal was awarded as manufacturers of machines; to Mr. Elias Howe a similar medal was awarded as propagator. The distinction made by the jury explains itself.

"The original machine of Thimonnier only needed to pass into the skilful hands of Wheeler & Wilson, to receive the highest perfection. To-day, thanks to its cheapness, their machine is accessible to all. Its simplicity assures it not only a place in the chamber of the seamstress, but its elegant form wins its admittance into the most sumptuous parlor."—*Evening Mail*.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

MARRIED.

SWITZER—McGREGOR.—At the residence of Mr. James C. McGregor, Terre Haute, Ind., on Tuesday, December 3d, by Rev. Thomas M. Martin, Colonel NELSON B. SWITZER, U. S. A., to Miss HELEN M. McGREGOR, daughter of the late Robert McGregor, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

BOWKER—SMITH.—In the Baptist church in Piscataway, on Monday, November 25, 1867, by the Rev. G. S. Webb, D. D., First Lieutenant HUGH D. BOWKER, Forty-fifth Infantry, U. S. A., to Miss SUSIE G. SMITH, of New Brunswick, N. J.

VOGDEN—ADAMS.—In St. Mary's church, Manhattanville, New York City, by the Rev. Charles C. Adams, rector, assisted by the Rev. Dr. F. M. C. Peters, ANTHONY WAYNE VOGDEN, first lieutenant Fourth U. S. Infantry, to ADA ADLAIDE ADAMS, only daughter of the officiating clergyman. No cards.

MAUCK—WOOD.—At the residence of the bride's father, in Conshohocken, on the 26th of November, by Rev. T. S. Yocum, CLARENCE MAUCK, captain Fourth Cavalry, brevet major U. S. A., to HELEN, eldest daughter of Hon. John Wood.

KING—HOLFORD.—On the 30th November, by Rev. J. Hendricks, JOHN A. B. KING, U. S. N., to Miss LOUISA HOLFORD, of Key West, Florida.

HEGEMAN—RUSSELL.—On Thursday morning, December 6th, at the residence of the bride's mother, in Brooklyn, N. Y., by the Rev. M. Guico, WILLIAM J. R. HEGEMAN to KATE MARVIN, the youngest daughter of the late Dr. J. P. Russell, U. S. A. No cards.

DIED.

TOWN.—At Geneva, N. Y., December 6th, JEANIE SMITH, wife of Franklin E. Town, lieutenant Eleventh U. S. Infantry, aged 29 years and 19 days.

GERRARD.—At New York, December 5, 1867, Lieutenant GEORGE GERRARD, U. S. Revenue Marine Service.

TAYLOR'S SALOON

555 BROADWAY,

Bet. Spring and Prince Streets.

The above establishment is open for the reception of visitors from 6 A. M. to 12 P. M.

Meats ready at all hours.

Creams and Confectionery always on hand of the best quality.
Choice Grapes and other Fruit in season.

ANY OFFICER OF THE LATE ONE
Hundred and Seventeenth regiment U. S. Colored Infantry, will confer a favor by addressing
BENNET COLONEL DAVID BRANSON,
No. 507 South Broad street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

READING FOR THE WINTER.

Arrangements have been made for Clubbing THE GALAXY with other Periodicals, which offer decided advantages to those who are now selecting their reading for the Winter. By these arrangements a saving to the subscriber of from twenty per cent. upward is effected. Especial attention is invited to the following terms. The subscriptions will be commenced at any time desired.

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The Galaxy and Harper's Bazar will be sent One Year for	\$6 00—Regular Price,	\$7 50
The Galaxy and Harper's Weekly	" 6 00 "	7 50
The Galaxy and Harper's Monthly	" 6 00 "	7 50
The Galaxy and Our Young Folks	" 4 50 "	5 50
The Galaxy and The Riverside Magazine	" 4 50 "	6 00
The Galaxy and The Am. Agriculturist	" 4 00 "	5 50
The Galaxy and Every Saturday	" 7 00 "	8 50
The Galaxy and The Round Table	" 8 00 "	9 50
The Galaxy and the Army and Navy Journal	" 8 00 "	9 50

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The Galaxy, The Army and Navy Journal, and Harper's Bazar, or Harper's Weekly, or Harper's Monthly,
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THEY ARE THE ORIGINAL INVENTORS.
THEY ARE THE PATENTERS OF ESSENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS.
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The Public are respectfully invited to call and inspect their large assortment of new and beautiful styles. Catalogues, &c., sent free mail.

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INFORMATION WANTED OF JOHN CLANCY, late of the First U. S. Artillery, who will hear something to his advantage, by communicating with the Post Adjutant of the Military Post of Charleston, S. C.

TO COMMANDING OFFICERS OR PAYMASTERS OF THE U. S. NAVY.
Wanted, a position as Captain or Paymaster's Clerk, by a young man who has had several years' experience. Address, C. C., Box 2,600, N. Y. Post Office.

BENEDICT'S TIME TABLE for this Month. All Railroads and Steamboats from New York complete, with City Map—25 cents. Sent by mail. BENEDICT BROS., Jewellers, No. 171 Broadway.

ARMY AND NAVY UNIFORMS.

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CHINA, GLASS, GAS FIXTURES, CLOCKS, BRONZES, PARIAN, ETC.,
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China decorated to order, Glass cut or engraved to pattern, and all articles at REDUCED PRICES.

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WATCHES, DIAMONDS, JEWELRY, SOLID SILVER AND SILVER-PLATED WARE.

Orders by Express, C. O. D., will receive prompt attention.

No connection with any other establishment.

A CARD.

Sir: It having been represented to me that a person bearing the name of Taylor has, and now is, personating himself a commissioned officer of the Eighth U. S. Infantry, in public places of your city and elsewhere, I deem it necessary to the public and friends of my regiment in New York and the Union, to inform them that no such person is a commissioned officer in the Eighth U. S. Infantry. Therefore he is an impostor upon the public.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
DANIEL T. WELLS,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Eighth Infantry,
Brevet Major U. S. A.
To the Editor ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, N. Y. City.

PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT this office until December 1, 1867, to manufacture and deliver at Fort Abercrombie by July 31, 1868, Five Hundred Thousand well burned good Brick, of the usual size, suitable for building; also for making, burning and delivering Three Million Brick at Fort Totten, on Minnawakan Lake, during next Summer; delivery to commence June 30, 1868.

Proposals will also be received to cut, saw and deliver from the public lands at Fort Totten Two Hundred Thousand feet of Dimension Lumber, One Million of Shingles, Two Hundred Thousand feet of one-inch stuff, and Fifty Thousand Lath.

Proposals for furnishing Hay next Summer at Fort Totten and all the posts on the Missouri River, Department of Dakota, are invited until January 1, 1868.

Parties bidding, if not well known, must establish their responsibility, and are desired to make their proposals full and distinct. All the information practicable will be given at this office.

S. B. HOLABARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Deputy Quartermaster-General,
Brevet Brigadier-General and Commissary Quartermaster, Department of Dakota.

STONE AND SEAL ENGRAVING.

TIFFANY & CO.,

Nos. 560 & 552 BROADWAY,

Would state to Army and Navy patrons, that they have recently added to the artistic force of the establishment, an accomplished workman in the above lines, and are able to execute the most particular orders—many of which have heretofore necessarily gone abroad. Designs, carefully prepared for private or public seals, etc., will be returned cut in the best style, by Express, to any part of the Union.

PROPOSALS

FOR

ARMY TRANSPORTATION.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA,

SAINT PAUL, MINN., November 13, 1867.

SEALED Proposals will be received at this office, until 12 o'clock M. on the Twentieth day of January, 1868, for the transportation of Military Supplies during the year commencing April 1st, 1868, and ending March 31st, 1869, on Route No. 4, from Saint Paul, Minn., or Saint Cloud, Minn., by the shortest road or line to such Posts as are now or may be established in the State of Minnesota, and in that portion of Dakota Territory lying east of the Missouri river and bounded by it, and from Fort Stevenson or other designated points on the Missouri river eastward to present Posts, or such as may be established east or north of that river, in Dakota Territory.

The weight to be transported on this route No. 4, shall not exceed Ten Million pounds (10,000,000). Bidders will state the rate, per one hundred (100) pounds per one hundred (100) miles for each month of the year beginning April 1st, 1868, and ending March 31st, 1869.

Bidders should give their names in full as well as their places of residence, and each proposal should be accompanied by a Bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars, signed by two or more responsible persons, guaranteeing that in case a contract is awarded for the route mentioned in the proposal to the party proposing, the contract will be accepted and entered into and good and sufficient security furnished by said party in accordance with the terms of this advertisement.

The contractor will be required to give bonds in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). Satisfactory evidence of the loyalty and solvency of each bidder and person offered as security will be required.

Proposals must be endorsed "Proposals for Army Transportation on Route No. 4," and none will be entertained unless they fully comply with the requirements of this advertisement.

The party to whom an award is made must be prepared to execute the contract at once and to give the required bonds for the faithful performance of the contract.

The right to receive any and all bids that may be offered is reserved.

The contractor must be in readiness for service by the 1st day of April, 1868, and will be required to have a place of business or agency at which he may be communicated with promptly and readily for Route No. 4, at St. Paul, Minn., Fort Stevenson, Dakota Territory, or at such other point as may be indicated as the starting point of the route.

Blank forms, showing the conditions of the contract to be entered into, can be had on application at this office, or at the office of the Quartermaster at New York, Chicago, Saint Louis, Fort Leavenworth, Omaha, and Fort Snelling, and must accompany and be a part of the proposals.

S. B. HOLABARD,

Lt. Col., Deputy Q. M. Gen., Bvt. Brig. Gen.,

U. S. A., Chief Q. M. Dep't of Dakota.

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At one-half the usual Selling Prices. Come and see. French China Dinner Sets, 150 pieces.....\$39
French China Tea Sets, 44 pieces..... 7
Imperial Parian Stone Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets very low; handsome as China, and less in price. Cut and Pressed Goblets, from.....\$2 50 to \$19 per doz.
Silver-plated Casters, from..... 3 00 to 10 each.
Silver-plated Pitchers, from..... 5 00 to 10 each.
Silver-plated Tea Sets, Urns, Baskets, Forks, Spoons, etc., equally low.
Fancy Toilet Sets, from \$7 to \$25.

Good assortment of rich China Mantel Vases, from \$5 to \$50 per pair; one-half the Broadway and downtown prices. Decorated and Gold Band China Dinner Sets selling less than cost of importation. A fine variety of Decorated China, Tea and Toilet Sets. Also, Shield Cut Cutlery, Tea Trays, Platinized Tin Ware, Fire Sets, Fenders, Baths, Fire Warmers, Table and Door Mats, Refrigerators, Tables, Chairs, Clothes Wringers, and 1,000 other articles in the line. Come and see our goods and low prices.

Goods packed and shipped all over the world. Remember **HADLEY'S**, the Middle of the Cooper Institute Block.

A SECOND LIEUTENANT OF ARTILLERY, stationed on the Atlantic coast, would like to exchange with an officer of like grade in the Cavalry, serving in the West. Address "H. H.," New York, care Army and Navy Journal.

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The Screw Steamers of the North German Lloyd
Run regularly between New York, Bremen and
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CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAIL.
FROM BREMEN.....EVERY SATURDAY.
FROM SOUTHAMPTON.....EVERY TUESDAY.
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Price of Passage from New York to Bremen, London,
Havre, and Southampton.
First Cabin, \$125; Second Cabin, \$75; Steerage, \$37 50.
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First Cabin, \$125; Second Cabin, \$85; Steerage, \$47 50.
Price of passage payable in Gold, or its equivalent
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These vessels take Freight to London and Hull, for
which through bills of lading are signed.
An experienced surgeon is attached to each vessel.
All letters must pass through the Post Office.
No bills of Lading but those of the Company
will be signed.

Bills of Lading will positively not be delivered be-
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Specie taken to Havre, Southampton and Bre-
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LIS, leave Pier No. 46, N. R., on SATURDAYS,
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at the following rates, payable in gold or its equivalent
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**LONDON AND NEW YORK STEAM-
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PASSAGE TO LONDON, \$110, \$75 and \$30,
Currency. Excursion tickets at reduced rates, avail-
able for six months.

CELLA.....Capt. Gleadell, from N. Y. Dec. 14th.
ATALANTA.....Capt. Pinkham, from N. Y. Dec. 28th.
BELLONA.....Capt. Dixon, from N. Y. Jan. 11th.
WM. PENN.....Capt. Billings, from N. Y. Jan. 25th.
The elegant British iron steamship CELLA
will leave Pier No. 3, North River, for London direct,
on Saturday, December 14th, at 8 A. M.

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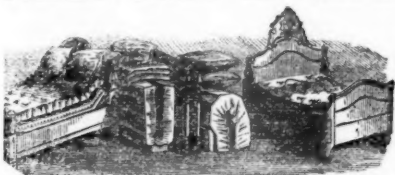
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and ending March 31, 1869, on

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From Cheyenne, Dakota, or such other points as may
be determined upon during the year on the Omaha
branch of the Union Pacific Railroad, west of Chey-
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47 degrees, in the Territory of Dakota, west of
longitude 104 degrees, in the Territory of Idaho, east
of longitude 114 degrees, and in the Territories of
Utah and Colorado, north of latitude 40 degrees, in-
cluding, if necessary, Denver City.

The weight to be transported during the year on
Route No. 1, will not exceed twenty-five millions
(25,000,000) pounds.

Bidders will state the rate per 100 pounds per 100
miles, at which they will transport the stores in each
month of the year, beginning April 1, 1868, and end-
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Bidders should give their names in full, as well as
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accompanied by a bond in the sum of ten thousand
(\$10,000) dollars, signed by two or more responsible
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and good and sufficient security furnished by said
party in accordance with the terms of this advertise-
ment.

Each bidder must be present at the opening of the
proposals, in person or be represented by his attorney.
The contractor will be required to give \$250,000
bonds.

Satisfactory evidence of the loyalty and solvency of
each bidder and person offered as security will be re-
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Proposals must be endorsed "Proposals for Army
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The party to whom the award is made must be
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the required bonds for the faithful performance of the
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The right to reject any and all bids that may be
offered is reserved.

The contractor must be in readiness for service by
the 1st day of April, 1868, and will be required to have
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